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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: July 2, 1998
Time: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers, 401 Van Ness Ave, Rm. 404

Agenda

I. Introduction of Commissioners.
II. Overview of Commissioners' Legal Duties: Presentation by the City Attorney on the Sunshine Ordinance (San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 6.7) and the Brown Act.
III. Presentation on the Impact of Federal Welfare Reform and the Development of the Immigrant Rights Commission Ordinance.
IV. Action Item: Consideration of Immigrant Rights Commission Structure and Selection of Chairperson(s).
V. New Business/Next Meeting's Agenda.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

The Board of Supervisors Legislative Chamber is wheelchair accessible. The closest accessible BART station is Civic Center, four blocks from the Veterans Building. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are #42 Downtown Loop and the #71 Haight/Noriega and the F line to Market and Van Ness and the METRO stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For more information about MUNI accessible services, call 923-6142.

There is accessible parking in the vicinity of the Veterans Building adjacent to Davies Hall and the War Memorial complex.

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MINUTES OF THE JULY 2, 1998 IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

The first meeting of the Immigrant Rights Commission was held on Thursday July 2, 1998, in the Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers at 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 404 in San Francisco.

MEMBERS PRESENT	Renata Ecarma	Fidel Jiminez	Nati Ramirez
	Marie Mallare	Samuel Assefa	Thou Ny
	Renee Saucedo	Martin Schenker	Lee Sprague
	Nam Thai	Penelope Chronis	Isabel Huie

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EXCUSED Dr. Anita Friedman, Philip Nguyen, Richard Ow

OTHERS PRESENT John Young, Immigration Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
Tonji Walker, Secretary, Department of Human Services.
Amy Ackerman, City Attorney
Mario Kashou, City Attorney

ROLL CALL John Young called the meeting to order at 4:45p.m. noting that the Commission was present with the exception of Dr. Friedman who was excused.

AGENDA The Commissioners introduced themselves, presenting information on their backgrounds, interest and involvement in immigrants rights and commented on their goals for the Commission. The City Attorney's office instructed the Commission regarding Commissioners' legal duties. There were 2 handouts distributed, the Sunshine Ordinance which is part of the San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 6.7, and the Brown Act. Both the Brown Act & Sunshine Ordinance govern the conduct of City Government and provide rules which preserve the public's right to know.

The City Attorneys office made it clear that the Commission must:

- *Provide the public with access*
- *Make all decisions in the open*
- *Post meeting notice at least 72 hours in advance at the Main Library's Government Information Center*
- *Make sure the public has notice of meeting location and agenda*
- *Allow the public to address the Commission before decision making*
- *Give the public a chance to speak before or after an action and non actions before moving on to the next item*
- *Only discuss or act on something listed on the agenda*
- *Have a mandatory general comment time*
- *Read the Brown Act and Sunshine Ordinance*
- *Keep record of the actions taken*

The City Attorney's office informed all that there are penalties for violation of the laws. Willful violation is a misdemeanor and the public can sue to set aside an action.

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General Discussion

Where should the Commission begin?

It was suggested that the Commission hold public hearings to: 1) solicit input from immigrants, 2) hear from people already working in the immigration area to get an idea where to start.

It was agreed that a hearing should be held after staffing issues were resolved. There were a lot of suggestions made as to which issues should be discussed first. After much conversation it was agreed that the Commission should start with Welfare Reform and an Education Policy for immigrants. Other ideas were: Citizenship/enforcement/legalization/economic development/neighborhood safety/hate crimes and voter registration.

It was suggested that the Commission hold hearings in immigrant neighborhoods.

John Young motioned to work on the next meeting and it's agenda, seconded and carried, the Commission elected to post the next agenda with two items.

1. Speakers on Welfare Reform
2. Staffing & Structure of Commission

The Commission agreed to meet the 1st Thursday of every month from 4:30 to 7p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

There being no further business, John Young motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded and carried.

City and County of San Francisco

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: August 6, 1998
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers, 401 Van Ness Ave, Rm. 404

Agenda

I. Action Item:
Approval of July 2 meeting minutes.
Action will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

II. Action Item:
Selection of Chairperson(s).
Action will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

III. Action Item:
Establishing Committees and Prioritizing Commission Tasks; a follow-up discussion of Commission priorities and possible community outreach plans.
Action will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

IV. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings:
The current status of Federal welfare reform, state and local implementation efforts, and the impact of these welfare reform programs on immigrant eligibility and access to federal, state and local services.
Presenter: Rini Chakraborty, Policy Associate, Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights (NCCIR)

V. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings:
The City's response to federal food stamp cuts for immigrants.
Presenter: San Francisco Department of Human Services

VI. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings:
The City's response to the scheduled loss of SSI eligibility on September 30, 1998 for certain categories of elderly and disabled immigrants (PRUCOL aliens).
Presenter: San Francisco Department of Human Services

VII. Next Meeting's Agenda

VIII. Public Comment:
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of August 6, 1998

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting was held on Thursday August 6, 1998, in the Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers at 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 404 in San Francisco.

MEMBERS PRESENT	Renata Ecarma	Fidel Jiminez	Nati Ramirez	Thou Ny
	Marie Mallare	Renee Saucedo	Martin Schenker	
	Penelope Chronis	Philip Nguyen	Richard Ow	

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anita Friedman, Lee Sprague, Samuel Assefa, Isabel Huie and Nam Thai

OTHERS PRESENT: John Young, Immigration Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
Tonji Walker, Secretary, Department of Human Services
Rini Chakraborty, Presenter, Coalition for Immigrant Rights
Press representatives

ROLL CALL: John Young called the meeting to order at 5:00pm, noting that the Commission was present with the exceptions of Anita Friedman, Lee Sprague, Samuel Assefa, Isabel Huie and Nam Thai.

AGENDA: On motion by John Young, seconded and carried, the agenda was adopted as posted.

MINUTES: On motion by Commissioner Schenker, seconded and carried, the Minutes of the July 2, 1998 meeting were adopted as circulated.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE: On motion by Commissioner Schenker, seconded and carried, the Commission agreed to serve an interim term of 3 months for the chairperson and then have another vote.

On motion by Commissioner Ramirez, seconded and carried, the Commission agreed to one chairperson and one vice chair to act in the absence of the chairperson.

On motion by Commissioner Ow, seconded and carried, the Commission agreed to (four) 4 subcommittees: 1) Outreach and Education of Immigrant Access & Participation, 2) Policy and Legislation3) Welfare Reform Education, 4) Naturalization. President Saucedo stated that she would present an outline of proposed committee functions for the Commission's consideration at the next meeting.

Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of August 6, 1998

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

On nomination by Commissioner Ow, seconded and carried, Commissioner Saucedo was elected as President and Commissioner Mallare was elected Vice President.

1996 FEDERAL WELFARE REFORM LAWS

Rini Chakraborty of the Coalition for Immigrant Rights presented an overview of the 1996 Federal Welfare Reform Law. She spoke of the barriers that immigrants face and their limited access to eligibility and language services. There was a handout and Ms. Chakraborty described the injustices done to undocumented immigrants and cited incidents showing a decrease in services for immigrants.

Ms. Chakraborty distributed a handout.

When Ms. Chakraborty was asked what concerns she has for San Francisco and the State, she noted that it would be very helpful if agencies would adopt the "Don't ask Don't Report Policy" and monitor access to services and prenatal care for immigrants.

FOOD STAMPS

John Young reported the Commission that San Francisco has put money into food banks throughout San Francisco's immigrant districts. Food bank information was mailed with discontinuance notices. No I.D. is required to receive food from the food banks and culturally appropriate food is available at all food bank locations. The planned food stamp benefit program will extend to serve those aged 18 to 24 with some work requirements.

SSI

John Young also reported that up to 25,000 immigrants may lose their SSI benefits nationwide. These individuals are "unqualfied immigrants" as defined under the federal welfare reform act. Most of these individuals fall within a special immigration category "Permanently Residing Under Color of Law" (PRUCOL). Most of the San Francisco PRUCOL residents (about 180) fall within the following subcategories.

- Those who registered with INS before 1972 but did not follow through with their Green Card
- Temporary residence status
- Deferred departure

The State may adopt legislation to continue these individuals' SSI benefits.

Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of August 6, 1998

GENERAL DISCUSSION

The committee noted several possible agenda items as well as ideas for presentations in the future.

Staffing & Budget
Committee Structure
Health Care
Public Hearings
Presentations on Border Patrol Enforcement
Education

The District Director of INS (Tom Schiltgen) would like to meet with the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, John Young adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm

City and County of San Francisco

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: September 3, 1998
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers, 401 Van Ness Ave, Rm. 404

Agenda

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I. Action Item:
Approval of August 6 meeting minutes.
Action will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

II. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings:
Presentation on Educational Access and the San Francisco Immigrant Community:
- San Francisco Unified School District Plans for Prop. 227.
- Recent Court Decision regarding School District Applications for Prop. 227 Waivers.
- Newcomer High School.
- General Issues of linguistic and cultural proficiency in educational services.

Presenter: Frank Chong, School Board Member, SFUSD

III. Action Item:
Presentation and discussion of goals and work priorities for each of the Commission's four new committees: 1.Outreach and Education/Immigrant Access and Participation Committee, 2.Policy and Legislation Committee, 3.Welfare Reform Committee, and 4.Citizenship Committee.
Action will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

IV. Action Item:
Consideration and Disscussion of Commission staffing and budget.
Action will be preceded by discussion and public comment

V. Next Meeting's Agenda

VI. Public Comment:
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

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Immigration Rights Commission
Minutes of September 3, 1998

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting was held on Thursday September 3, 1998, in the Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers at 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 404 in San Francisco.

MEMBERS PRESENT	Renato Ecarma	Fidel Jiminez	Nati Ramirez	Isabel Huie
	Rene Saucedo	Philip Nguyen	Richard Ow	Samuel Assefa
	Martin Schenker	Penelope Chronis		

MEMBERS ABSENT: Anita Friedman, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai, Thou Ny and Marie Mallare

OTHERS PRESENT: John Young, Immigration Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
Frank Chong, School Board Member, SFUSD

ROLL CALL: Rene Saucedo called the meeting to order at 4:40pm, noting that the Commission was present with the exceptions of Anita Friedman, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai and Marie Mallare.

AGENDA: On motion by Renee Saucedo, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the August 6, 1998 meeting were adopted as circulated.

Prop 227 Newcomer H.S.: Frank Chong, Board Member of the SFUSD addressed the commission regarding the impact of prop 227, educational issues and Newcomer High School. Mr. Chong gave a profile of immigrant students in the SFUSD and updated the Commission on the "Parent Relations Office" which has trained bilingual advocates who will help parents understand issues surrounding the schools.

He then gave a status report on Newcomer High School which is an entry point for newcomers to San Francisco. The Board, School District and the Superintendent have made a public commitment to keep Newcomer High School open. Mr. Chong provided the Commission with the Boards view of prop 227. The Board is taking the position that they are adhering to prop 227 in so far that they have a consent decree which mandates that immigrant children have full access to education. Both limited English speaking as well as native speaking children have a choice in terms of what type of education process parents think would be most suitable for their child.

Distributed a handout of Resolution.

Mr. Chong closed his presentation by informing the Commission that in order to better serve the community it would be most helpful to have more dialog with the

Immigration Rights Commission and possibly in the future hold joint meetings. Mr. Chong also stated that language or lack of communication should never be a barrier for allowing our public to express their opinion.

President Saucedo reminded all that San Francisco passed an ordinance some years ago, which providing free translators to any person who wanted to address Boards, or Commissions of San Francisco.

Public Comment

Several students from Galileo High School and Community Educational Services spoke out regarding the need to keep Newcomer High School open and that parents need to be made more aware of their options.

Committee Structure

The Commission broke down into four sub groups.

Immigrant Access & Participation:

Committee Chair:	Richard Ow
Members:	Philip Nguyen, Rene Saucedo

Policy Legislation:

Committee Chair:	Penelope Chronis
Members:	Fidel Jiminez

Welfare:

Committee Chair:	Samuel Assefa
Members:	Martin Schenker

Citizenship:

Committee Chair:	Isabel Huie
Members:	Renato Ecarma, Fidel Jiminez, Natividad Ramirez

Absent Commissioners were not assigned to committees. Possible agenda for First Committee Meetings: Consideration and discussion of committee mission statement, structure, meeting times and possible future projects.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

There being no further business Rene Saucedo adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: October 1, 1998
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers, 401 Van Ness Ave, Rm. 404

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. Action Item:
Approval of September 3 meeting minutes.

II. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings:
Presentation on recent changes in the INS' San Francisco office including its efforts to improve naturalization and other services for immigrants in the San Francisco Bay Area.
Presenter: Thomas Schiltgen, District Director, Immigration & Naturalization Service
Presentation will be followed by discussion and public comment.

III. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings:
Presentation on the San Francisco Component of the Northern Naturalization Project
Presenter: Lina Avidan, Coordinator for the Northern California Citizenship Project
Presentation will be followed by discussion and public comment.

IV. Action Item:
Discussion and consideration of goals and work priorities for each of the Commission's four new committees: 1. Immigrant Access and Participation, 2.Policy and Legislation, 3.Welfare Reform, and 4.Citizenship.

IV. Action Item:
Discussion and consideration of draft budget proposal for start-up staffing of the Commission.

V. Action Item:
Report from Commissioners Saucedo and Ow on the September 17 hearing before the Board of Supervisors on human rights violations against ethnic Chinese in Indonesia and of possible actions to be taken in response by the Commission.

VI. Action Item:
Report from Commissioner Thai on Upcoming Immigrant Pride Day and discussion of Commission participation.

VI. Next Meeting's Agenda

VII. Public Comment:
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

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IMMIGRATION RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 1998

The Immigration Rights Commission meeting was held Thursday October 1, 1998, in the Board of Supervisors Legislative chambers at 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 404 in San Francisco.

Members Present	Renato Ecarma	Nati Ramirez	Isabel Huie	Anita Friedman
	Rene Saucedo	Philip Nguyen	Richard Ow	Penelope Chronis
	Thou Ny	Marie Mallare		
Members Absent	Lee Sprague	Fidel Jiminez	Nam Thai	Martin Schenker

Others Present John Young, Immigration Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
Thomas Schiltgen, District Director of INS
Rosemary Fan, Community Relations Officer of INS
Tonji Walker, Secretary

Roll Call Rene Saucedo called the meeting to order at 4:40pm, noting that the Commission was present with the exceptions of Lee Sprague, Fidel Jiminez, Nam Thai and Martin Schenker.

Agenda On motion by Rene Saucedo, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

Minutes The minutes of the September 3, 1998 meeting were adopted as circulated.

INS Thomas Schiltgen, District Director of INS addressed the Commission stating that he had met with the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to help reach an understanding of INS' dual responsibility for service and enforcement.

Mr. Schiltgen reported that ½ of the INS staff is bilingual. They have interpreters and a very diverse staff. 95% of applicants are required to speak English. Only the elderly are exempt. The applications and claims forms are on line. CBO's will be provided with software as well as training and information session. CBO's should Contact Rosemary Fan regarding these matters.

It has also been determined that there is a lack of knowledge around citizenship issues.

INS is severely backlogged. In September of 1998 they were still processing applications from September and October of 1997.

Over the next 5 months INS will engage the community with information.

The commission can help the INS by helping the community to understand what INS does.

Public Comment There was no public comment.

No. Calif. Citizenship Project Ms. Lina Avidan, Coordinator, of the Northern California Citizenship Project addressed the Commission and identified key contact persons and helpful information. Ms. Avidan started her presentation by stating that the INS has Web page that is very informative and can be located under the U.S. Department of Justice. Janet Seldon is the Director of Volunteer Legal Services and can be reached at 777-5761 x19. Eric Cohen is the contact person for the Immigrant Legal Resource Center and can be reached at 255-9499 x 264.

Ms. Avidan also informed the Commission that George Soros, a Hungarian philanthropist granted a consortium of 12 Bay Area counties a combined $5 million dollars towards citizenship efforts. Each county had to match their dedicated amount and each county has a liason who attends monthly meetings with the grantees.

Public Comment There was no public comment.

Committees:

The Immigrant Access Committee suggested that they provide refreshments at the public hearings held in immigrant areas. They also recommended that they meet with City departments to assure immigrant access and make recommendations regarding educational materials.

The Policy & Legislation Committee agreed to meet Tuesday before the standard Commission meetings. This committee asked that local, State, County and Non profit organizations be informed and on the IRC's mailing list in order to coordinate information. It was also determined that at times their would be a need to meet with some of the other committees regarding policy & legislation. The policy & legislation Committee hopes to have more say in Local & State Policy & Legislation and address the Board of Supervisors.

The Welfare Reform Committee met and discussed what the City's role should be to mitigate adverse effects of the Welfare Reform law in San Francisco and what funding role should the City play in mitigating these gaps. Proposed a 4 point policy to extend the immigrant population in San Francisco. (Handout)

The Citizenship Committee would like to establish a working relationship with INS and focus on Naturalization. (Handout)

Public Comment There was no public comment

Budget A draft budget proposal for start-up of staffing was presented to the Commission and adopted as circulated. John Young will present the budget to the Board of Supervisors.

Public Comment There was no public comment

Immigrant Pride Day Immigrant Pride Day was held on October 4, 1998 and someone from the Immigration Rights Commission should be present to represent the Commission.

General Discussion Following discussion, the Commission voted t adopt a resolution presented by Commissioner Saucedo supporting the underlying principles of the October 4, 1998 Immigrant Pride Day.

Public Comment There was no public comment

Next Meeting

Can we put timeframes on discussions for future agenda's? It was identified that handouts should be given prior to meetings.

Public Comment There was no public comment

Adjourn There being no further business Rene Saucedo adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm

City and County of San Francisco **Immigrant Rights Commission**

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: November 5, 1998
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers, 401 Van Ness Ave, Rm. 404

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. **Action Item:**
Approval of October 1st meeting minutes.

II. **Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings:**
Presentation on issues of housing rights and their impact on San Francisco's immigrant communities.
Presenters (to be confirmed):
Gen Fujioka, Housing Project attorney, Asian Law Caucus
Mat Brown, St. Peter's Housing Committee
Raquel Fox, Tenderloin Housing Clinic
Presentation will be followed by discussion and public comment.

III. **Action Item:**
Discussion and consideration of mission statements developed by each of the Commission's four committees: 1. Immigrant Access and Participation, 2.Policy and Legislation, 3.Welfare Reform, and 4.Citizenship.

IV. **Action Item:**
Update on draft budget proposal for start-up staffing of the Commission.

V. **Next Meeting's Agenda**

VI. **Public Comment:**
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of November 5, 1998

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting was held on Thursday, November 5, 1998, in the Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers at 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 404 in San Francisco.

Members Present	Renato Ecarma	Fidel Jiminez	Nati Ramirez	Philip Nguyen
	Rene Saucedo	Richard Ow	Thou Ny	Samuel Assefa
	Penelope Chronis	Anita Friedman		

Members Absent Lee Sprague, Nam Thai, Marie Mallare and Isabel Huie

Others Present John Young, Immigration Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
Mario Kashou, City Attorney
Tonji Walker, Secretary
Gen Fujioka, Housing Project Attorney, Asian Law Caucus
Amando Vasquez, Mission Housing & Development Corporation
Raquel Fox, Tenderloin Housing Clinic
Wai-Ching Kwan, Senior Planner, Chinatown Community Development Corp.

Roll Call Rene Saucedo called the meeting to order at 4:45pm, noting that the Commission was present with the exceptions of Anita Friedman, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai, Marie Mallare and Isabel Huie.

Agenda On motion by Rene Saucedo, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

Minutes The minutes of the October 1, 1998 meeting was adopted with the correction that Samuel Assefa was present at the last Commission meeting.

Presentation:

Wai-Ching Kwan from the Chinatown Community Development came and gave a presentation on housing issues and how immigrants are impacted by the housing market. Ms. Kwan expressed a need for policy change or legislation recommendations for the Board of Supervisors in regard to a need for funding for housing. A handout was given.

Armando Vasquez of the Mission Housing & Development Corporation spoke to the Commission regarding the connection between the high cost of living in San Francisco and the effect it has on a child's education. Sometimes there are between 2 and 4 families living in a 3 bedroom apartment in order to afford rent. The educational process for children is made more difficult because there is no space to do homework. There is increased domestic violence with such close quarters. Mr. Vasquez also noted that many immigrants do not know how to fill out housing applications nor will they fight for their rights for fear of bureaucracy and retaliation.

Gen Fujioka an attorney for the Asian Law Caucus spoke to the Commission and expressed a need for the Commission to provide a voice for the city's immigrants. Mr. Fujioka also explained that more legislation is needed to prevent the loss of affordable housing and there needs to be a plan to keep affordable housing on the market. Critical areas need to be identified and prioritized to fight the battle.

Committees The political participation committee presented the Commission with their mission statement description and presented a handout. The description was approved as circulated.

The policy & legislation committee presented the Commission with their mission statement description and presented a handout. The description was approved as amended.

The welfare committee presented the Commission with their mission statement description and presented a handout. The description was approved as amended.

The citizenship committee presented the Commission with their mission statement description and presented a handout. The description was approved as amended.

Copies of amended descriptions are attached.

City and County of San Francisco **Immigrant Rights Commission**

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: December 3, 1998
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers, 401 Van Ness Ave, Rm. 404

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. **Action Item:**
Approval of November 5th meeting minutes: (5 minutes).

II. **Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings: (60 minutes)**
Presentation on issues affecting undocumented aliens in San Francisco.
Presenters:
- **Rand Quinn, Policy Analyst, Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights**
- **Employment Law Center**

Presentation will be followed by discussion and public comment.

III. **Action Item: (20 minutes)**
Discussion and consideration of committee reports and possible actions for future meetings: 1. Immigrant Access and Participation, 2.Policy and Legislation, 3.Welfare Reform, and 4.Citizenship.

IV. **Action Item: (5 minutes)**
Update on draft budget proposal for start-up staffing of the Commission.

V. **Next Meeting's Agenda: (10 minutes)**

VI. **Public Comment:**
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

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3/98

Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of December 3, 1998

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting was held on Thursday, December 3, 1998, in the Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers at 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 404 in San Francisco.

Members Present Rene Saucedo, Marie Mallare, Samuel Asseffa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Phillip Nguyen, Richard Ow, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schencker.

Members Absent Anita Friedman, Fidel Jimeniz, Thou Ny, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present John Young, Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
William Chan, Deputy City Attorney
Anamaria Loya, Executive Director of La Raza Centro Legal
Marielena Hincapie, Staff Attorney, Employment Law Center
Christopher Ho, Staff Attorney, Employment Law Center.

Roll Call Rene Saucedo called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. noting that the Commission was present with the exceptions of Anita Friedman, Fidel Jimeniz, Thou Ny, Lee Sprague, and Nam Thai.

Agenda On motion by Rene Saucedo, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

Minutes The minutes of the November 5, 1998 meeting were adopted as presented.

Presentations Representatives from the Employment Law Center and La Raza Centro Legal made presentations on issues affecting undocumented aliens in San Francisco. Both presentations cited the potentially disastrous impact of any collaboration between City public safety departments and the enforcement arm of the INS on the health and welfare of San Franciscans.

- Effective enforcement of workers' rights legislation including the Fair Labor Standards Act, the National Labor Relations Act, and the California Labor Code depend in large measure on the extension of these legal protections to all employees regardless of their immigration status.
- In the area of adequate housing, evictions or the threat of evictions of families based on immigration status severely lessen

the City's ability to enforce its rent control and building safety laws.

- Rand Quinn from the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights provided the Commission with a written summary of issues and possible policy initiatives relating to the undocumented in San Francisco. Copies are attached.

Committees The Policy & Legislation Committee and the Immigrant Access and Participation, Welfare and Citizenship Committees presented reports on their respective meetings. Meeting minutes are attached.

Budget John Young reported on the ongoing budget discussions with the Mayor's Budget Office and presented a draft staffing plan and description of job duties to the Commission.

Rules By general consensus the Commission agreed to Commissioner Saucedo's offer to develop proposed guidelines for rules governing conduct of commission meetings, attendance and committee participation for future discussion.

Chinatown Meeting The Commission agreed to hold its regular February meeting (Feb. 4, 1999) in Chinatown. Commissioner Isabel Huie will check on the availability of the Chinese For Affirmative Action Community Room at 17 Walter U. Lum Place for this meeting.

Following Meeting The Commission agreed to have presentations on the upcoming decennial census and issues regarding undercounting of immigrants and language minorities.

Public Comment John Oei, addressed the Commission on human rights abuses against ethnic Chinese in Indonesia and on the need to assist individuals seeing political asylum from this persecution.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: January 7, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers, 401 Van Ness Ave, Rm. 404

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. Action Item:
Approval of December 3rd meeting minutes: (5 minutes).

II. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings: (60 minutes)
Presentation on issues related to ensuring a full and accurate count of immigrant communities in the upcoming decennial census and annual American Community Survey.
Presenters:
- Hoy Young Poon, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census
- Theodore Wang, Chinese for Affirmative Action
- Amit Ghosh, San Francisco Planning Department

Presentation will be followed by discussion and public comment.

III. Action Item: (20 minutes)
Discussion and consideration of committee reports and possible actions for future meetings: 1. Immigrant Access and Participation, 2.Policy and Legislation, 3.Welfare Reform, and 4.Citizenship.

IV. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Update on draft budget proposal for start-up staffing of the Commission.
Action Item: (15 minutes)

V. Action Item: (15 minutes)
Discussion and consideration of possible amendments to the October 1st resolution by the Immigrant Rights Commission regarding the violation of human rights of ethnic Chinese in Indonesia.

VI. Next Meeting's Agenda: (10 minutes)

VII. Public Comment:
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

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serving this location are #42 Downtown Loop and the #71 Haight/Noriega and the F line to Market and Van Ness and the METRO stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For more information about MUNI accessible services, call 923-6142.

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/99

Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of January 7, 1999

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting was held on Thursday, January 7, 1999, in the Board of Supervisors Committee Chambers at 401 Van Ness Avenue, Room 410 in San Francisco.

Members Present Rene Saucedo, Marie Mallare, Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Fidel Jimeniz, Phillip Nguyen, Thou Ny, Richard Ow, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker.

Members Absent Anita Friedman, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present John Young, Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney
Hoi Yung Poon, Bureau of the Census
Ted Wang, Chinese for Affirmative Action

Agenda On motion by Rene Saucedo, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

Minutes The minutes of the December 3,1998 meeting were adopted with technical corrections.

Presentations Hoi-Yung Poon from the Bureau of the Census and Ted Wang from Chinese for Affirmative Action discussed the importance of the upcoming decennial census and the annual "American Community Survey" to San Francisco and to San Francisco's immigrant communities. The speakers provided an overview of the importance of the census to local communities and the process for the upcoming census. Census data determines reapportionment, redistricting, federal revenue sharing and provides critical data collection for public and private planning. Census undercounts have a profound impact on the electoral power and resource allocation for undercounted communities. Immigrants, limited English proficient and people of color are among the groups historically undercounted in census.

Committees The Policy & Legislation Committee and the Immigrant Access and Participation, Welfare, and Citizenship Committees presented reports on their respective meetings. It was agreed that the Citizenship committee would now include welfare reform within the scope of its work and that the members of the current Welfare committee would focus their work on census issues.

Budget	John Young reported on the ongoing budget discussions with the Mayor's Budget Office. The Budget Office has declined the Commission's preliminary request for funding. Commission members unanimously agreed to meet with members of the Board of Supervisors to pursue funding for the Commission's work.
Rules	By general consensus the Commission agreed to Commissioner Saucedo's offer to develop proposed guidelines for rules governing conduct of commission meetings, attendance and committee participation for future discussion.
Chinatown Meeting	The Commission agreed to hold its regular February meeting (Feb. 4, 1999) in Chinatown. Commissioner Isabel Huie will check on the availability of the Chinese For Affirmative Action Community Room at 17 Walter U. Lum Place for this meeting.
Following Meeting	The Commission agreed to have presentations on the upcoming decennial census and issues regarding undercounting of immigrants and language minorities. The Commission will also consider adoption of a resolution calling for active collaboration by City government in efforts to ensure a complete count of all San Franciscans in the decennial and annual censuses.
Public Comment	John Oei, addressed the Commission on human rights abuses against ethnic Chinese in Indonesia and on the need to assist individuals seeing political asylum from this persecution.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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IMMIGRATION RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 1999

The Immigration Rights Commission meeting was held Thursday October 1, 1998, at Chinese for Affirmative Action in the Community Room at 17 Walter U. Lum Place.

Members Present	Renato Ecarma	Nati Ramirez	Isabel Huie	Penelope Chronis
	Rene Saucedo	Philip Nguyen	Richard Ow	Thou Ny
	Marie Mallare	Martin Schenker		

Members Absent Lee Sprague, Fidel Jiminez, Samuel Assefa, Nam Thai and Anita Friedman

Others Present John Young, Immigration Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS

Roll Call Rene Saucedo called the meeting to order at 4:45pm, noting that the Commission was present with the exceptions of Lee Sprague, Fidel Jiminez, Nam Thai, Anita Friedman and Samuel Assefa

Agenda On motion by Rene Saucedo, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

Minutes The minutes of the February 4, 1999, meeting were adopted as circulated.

Immigrant Issues Several youth from Community Educational Services and Asian Community Teens Organizing for Community Empowerment came out and spoke to the Commission regarding issues affecting immigrant families and immigrant rights. The reports from the Youth included an urgent need for more bilingual materials and staffing throughout all City departments and Private Industries. The children cited many crucial incidents where lack of bilingual staff and translated materials were hindrances in dealing with hospital emergency staff and interpreting notices from City departments and banks. One youth spoke of a situation where his mother, who does not speak English had fallen and injured herself at home. 911 was called, but when the paramedics arrived, the mother and son who speak little English could not tell the paramedics what happened. Also, upon arrival to the hospital the mother and son could not tell the doctor on duty how the injury came about. The lack of translated materials also effect relationships between parents and children due to the fact that parents often rely on their children to interpret notices and mailings. When a child cannot interpret these notices it causes conflict within the home.

IMMIGRATION RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 1999

Public Comment A women visiting the Commission meeting asked the students what they would recommend to alleviate the problems they are facing. The women also noted that the Chinese newspapers and radio stations should help with translating materials. The student stated that translated materials throughout City and Private agencies, is detrimental in correcting these problems immigrants are facing.

2000 Census Mr. Ted Wang from Chinese for Affirmative Action spoke to the Commission regarding assistance in getting an accurate count of the immigrant population in San Francisco. Mr. Wang stressed that it is important that immigrants are counted and represented to the full extent in the decennial census and annual American Community Survey.

Budget Proposal John Young informed the Commission that the proposed budget had been presented to the Board of Supervisors and we are waiting final approval.

Public Comment There was no public comment.

Bilingual Legislation John Young presented a progress report on the continuing efforts to develop appropriate legislation with community groups.

Public Comment There was no public comment.

Adjourn There being no further business Marie Mallare adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm

City and County of San Francisco

Immigrant Rights Commission

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: March 4, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Legislative Chambers,
1 Dr. Carlton Goodlett Place, Room 250

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. Action Item:
Approval of February 4th 1999 meeting minutes: (5 minutes).

II. Action Item: (60 minutes)
Discussion and consideration of resolution urging adoption by the Mayor and Board of Supervisors of legislation establishing minimum standards for multilingual access to essential city services.

III. Action Item: (20 minutes)
Discussion and consideration of committee reports and possible actions for future meetings: 1. Immigrant Access and Participation, 2.Policy and Legislation, 3.Welfare Reform, and 4.Citizenship.

IV. Action Item: (15 minutes)
Update on City efforts to ensure a complete count of immigrant communities in the upcoming Year 2000 Census. Report on "Complete Count Committee" formation and hearing before the March 2nd Board of Supervisors Housing & Social Policy Committee.

IV. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Update on draft budget proposal for start-up staffing of the Commission.
Action Item: (15 minutes)

V. Action Item: (15 minutes)
Discussion and consideration of holding the Commission's April meeting in the Mission District.

VI. Next Meeting's Agenda: (10 minutes)

VII. Public Comment:
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of March 4, 1999

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting was held on Thursday, March 4, 1999, in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room at City Hall, Room 416, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place in San Francisco.

Members Present Rene Saucedo, Marie Mallare, Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Anita Friedman, Isabel Huie, Phillip Nguyen, Thou Ny, Richard Ow, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker.

Members Absent Fidel Jimeniz, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present John Young, Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS
Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney
Taylor Emerson, Mayor's Budget Office
Rand Quinn, Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights
Donia Fernandez, Employment Law Center

Agenda On motion by Richard Ow, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

Minutes The minutes of the February 4,1999 meeting were adopted.

Bilingual Access John Young presented a progress report on the draft legislation for ensuring full access to essential city services by the City's non-English speaking residents. The legislative working group initiated by the Immigrant Rights Commission currently includes the Human Rights Commission, the Employment Law Center, the Asian Law Caucus, La Raza Centro Legal, the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights. The working group is being expanded to include community based service providers.
Including these groups will enable the working group to better identify those city services for which gaps in bilingual service capacity would present the greatest threat to the rights, health and safety of the non-English speaking residents.
Commission members prioritized developing bilingual access strategies with the Department of Public Health, Department of Human Services, the Rent Board, the Department of Building Inspection, and the Office of Citizen's Complaints.
The Commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the Board of Supervisors to adopt as a minimum standard for the provision of essential City services the standards already applicable to State agencies. The resolution also called on the

Board to direct the Immigrant Rights Commission in collaboration with the Human Rights Commission and community based organizations serving immigrants to conduct a needs assessment and develop appropriate legislation and implementation strategies for the provision of essential services tot he City's non-English speaking populations for consideration by the Board of Supervisors. The resolution was adopted with the understanding that the IRC working group would continue to develop legislation and implementation strategies for bilingual access.

Census Commissioner Saucedo and John Young presented progress reports on the City's efforts to ensure a complete count of immigrant communities in the upcoming Year 2000 Census. A task force including the Mayor's Office, the Board of Supervisors, key city departments and community based groups has been convened by the Mayor and Supervisor Teng. The group held its first meeting on February 9th and is currently developing outreach plans for the City's effort to ensure a complete count. The next meeting of the Complete Count Committee will be held on March 9th at 11:00 am in Room 201 of City Hall. Commission members and staff will be attending the meeting.

Budget John Young reported on the ongoing budget discussions with the Mayor's Budget Office. The Budget Office will be renewing discussions with the Commission on its proposed budget.

Mission Meeting The Commission agreed to hold its April meeting (April 14th, 1999) in the Mission. Commissioner Saucedo will check on the availability of an accessible facility for the meeting.

Following Meeting The Commission agreed to have presentations on the continued impact of former Governor Wilson's Executive Order denying many state services to immigrants. Bilingual Access to services will also be included within the meeting agenda.

Public Comment Rand Quinn, from the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights spoke on the importance of urging Governor Davis to rescind the Wilson Executive Order denying state services to immigrants.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco

Immigrants Rights Commission

Immigrant Rights Commission
Community Meeting

What can the City do to promote immigrant rights?
Tell the City what you think about:

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- *INS raids*
- *Providing bilingual services*
- *Housing*
- *Education*
- *Other issues in immigrant communities*

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We need to hear from *you*!

Wednesday, April 14, 1999
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Centro Del Pueblo
474 Valencia Street 2nd floor Auditorium
San Francisco

For more information call Rene Saucedo at 575-3504 or John Young at 557-5373.

(415) 557-5373
P.O. Box 7988
San Francisco, California 94120

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City and County of San Francisco — Immigrants Rights Commission

LA COMISION POR LOS DERECHOS DE LOS INMIGRANTES DE SAN FRANCISCO

Le invita a usted a una

Reunion Comunitaria

Que debe hacer San Francisco para promover los derechos de los inmigrantes?
Quiere darle a saber a la Ciudad lo que Usted piensa de:

- las redadas
- servicios
- la vivienda
- la educacion
- otros temas que afectan nuestras comunidades inmigrantes

Nececitamos Oir Sus Opiniones!!

Miercoles, Abril 14
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Centro Del Pueblo
474 Valencia Street 2nd floor Auditorium
San Francisco

Para mas informacion llame a Renee Saucedo al 575-3504

Habran interprctes.

(415) 557-6373 P.O. Box 7988 San Francisco, California 94120

City and County of San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission

移民權益委員會舉辦 社區會議

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市政府該如何推廣移民權益？

將你的想法告訴他們：

*移民局搜查
*提供雙語服務
*房屋問題
*教育問題
*其他有關移民社區的問題

我們想聽到你的聲響！

時間：1999年4月14日
5：00pm--7:00pm
地點：CentroDelpueblo
474Valenciastreet,
2/F,SanFrancisco

如有問題請電 Rene Saucedo, 電話是 415-575-3504

或請電 John Young 415-557-5373

(415) 557-5373 P.O. Box 7988 San Francisco, California 94120

APR-09-1999 13:34 DEPT OF HUMAN SVCS

City and County of San Francisco **Immigrants Rights Commission**

Declaring San Francisco an "INS Raid Free Zone"

Whereas, In 1996 Congress passed the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) which provides the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) more personnel and equipment resources for conducting enforcement activities; and

Whereas, The INS conducts raids at places of business and at people's homes, and conducts other forms of enforcement activities in San Francisco; and

Whereas, Raids are sometimes used by employers as a tactic to impede workplace and union organizing and to keep wages low; which impacts all workers, regardless of their immigration status; and

Whereas, Many immigrants living in San Francisco are forced to be separated from their family members and live in terror of being detained, questioned or arrested by the INS; and

Whereas, The INS often violates the civil rights of undocumented and legal residents during raids, arrests and detentions; and

Whereas, INS raids threaten the public safety of all San Franciscans, regardless of immigration status;

Whereas, San Francisco desires all its residents, regardless of immigration status, to live free from fear of being detained or arrested by the INS; and

Whereas, San Francisco values the contributions of all immigrants living in the city, regardless of their immigration status, and desires that they remain living in San Francisco;

Therefore be it Resolved, That the City and County of San Francisco declares itself an "INS Raid Free Zone". The Board of Supervisors and the Mayor of San Francisco request and urge the INS to cease conducting raids, arrests and detentions within the City and County of San Francisco; and

Be it further Resolved, That the Mayor of San Francisco contact the INS District Director will contact the INS District Director, Northern District, and will communicate the contents of this resolution.

Draft

(415) 557-5373 P.O. Box 7988 San Francisco, California 94120

APR-09-1999 13:35 DEPT OF HUMAN SVCS

MAR-30-1999 08:28

City and County of San Francisco

Immigrant Rights Commission

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MAR 30 1999

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: April 14, 1999
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Centro Del Pueblo, 474 Valencia Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. Action Item:
Approval of March 4th 1999 meeting minutes: (5 minutes).

II. Action Item: (45 minutes)
Discussion and consideration of legislation establishing minimum standards for multilingual access to essential city services.

III. Action Item: (45 minutes)
Discussion and consideration of resolution regarding INS enforcement activities by the INS in San Francisco and declaring San Francisco an "INS-Free Zone"
- Impact of INS raids on the health and safety of San Francisco residents.
- Impact of denial of essential services based on immigration status under the Wilson executive order.

IV. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Update on City efforts to ensure a complete count of immigrant communities in the upcoming Year 2000 Census.

V. Next Meeting's Agenda: (10 minutes)

VI. Public Comment:
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

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4/99

Immigration Rights Commission
Minutes of April 14, 1999

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, April 7, 1999 at Centro Del Pueblo at 474 Valencia Street in San Francisco.

Members Present	Renee Saucedo, Marie Mallare, Samuel Asseffa, Penelope Chronis, Richard Ow, Philip Nguyen, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schencker, Thou Ny, Fidel Jimeniz, Nam Thai and Anita Friedman
Members Absent	Lee Sprague
Others Present	John Young, Special Assistant to the Executive Director of DHS Tonji Walker, Secretary
Roll Call	Renee Saucedo called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m. and thanking the public for their large attendance at this meeting.
Agenda	On motion by Renee Saucedo, seconded and carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.
Public Comment	Supervisor Tom Ammiano addressed the Commission briefly and informed all that his door is open for any issues that are important to the Commission and thanked Supervisor Teng for initiating establishment of this Commission. There was much public comment by private agencies and the general public at this particular meeting as there was a large turn out to this meeting. Many expressed appreciation, thanks and the great need for an Immigrant Rights Commission and their goals. Several speakers asked that Commission pursue the goal of making San Francisco an INS Raid Free Zone and spoke on concerns ranging from police violence, false imprisonment to elderly immigrant issues.

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	The Filipino community was present and asked the Commission to assist them regarding their efforts to reverse current INS policy. When a Filipino Americans files for a first preference Visa petition there is currently up to a 12 year wait to see their family. This is an enormously long delay for Filipino Americans to be reunited with their unmarried families and children from abroad. Several youth from Community Educational Services returned to the Commission meeting and again expressed the urgent need for bilingual materials and staff throughout City agencies and the Private Industry.
Minutes	The minutes of the April 14, 1999 meeting was adopted as presented.
Language Access Ordinance	The Commission decided that this potential piece of legislation could not be voted on today. More work is needed on this piece to be certain that all immigrant concerns are addressed.
Public Comment	There was no public comment.
San Francisco as an INS Raid Free Zone	A motion was made to approve a resolution regarding INS enforcement and declaring San Francisco an INS Raid Free Zone. The Commission will work closely with Board of Supervisors to get this resolution introduced.
Public Comment	There was no public comment.
Census	The complete count committee is continuing to work and put together a plan to do outreach. There are 4 parts to this plan. 1) is government agencies that have contact with different groups to notify the public. 2) Work with the School District 3) Unified media strategy that will use mainstream media with print and electronic. 4) Ground strategy where individuals will go out to different neighborhoods and do a door to door census count.
Public Comment	There was no public comment.
Motions	On motion by Richard Ow seconded and carried the Commission agreed to change their standard meeting time from the first Thursday of the month 5 – 7pm to the first Wednesday 4:30-6:30pm.
Adjourn	There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm

City and County of San Francisco **Immigrant Rights Commission**

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Date: May 5, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: City Hall, Room 421
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco Calif. 94102

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. **Public Comment:**
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

II. **Action Item:**
Approval of April 14,1999 meeting minutes: (5 minutes).

III. **Action Item: (15 minutes)**
Discussion and consideration of legislation urging Governor Davis to withdraw the state appeal of Prop 187.

IV. **Action Item: (15 minutes)**
Report on INS Raid-Free Zone legislation. Discussion and consideration of possible legislation addressing continuing impact of current INS enforcement practices within San Francisco.

V. **Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings: (15 minutes)**
Presentation on living wage legislation.

VI. **Action Item: (30 minutes)**
Update on budget discussions and consideration of staff hiring

VII. **Next Meeting's Agenda: (10 minutes)**

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

City Hall Room 421 is wheelchair accessible. The closest accessible BART station is Civic Center, four blocks from the Veterans Building. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are #42 Downtown Loop and the #71 Haight/Noriega and the F line to Market and Van Ness and the METRO stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For more information about MUNI accessible services, call 923-6142.

There is accessible parking in the vicinity of City Hall adjacent to Davies Hall and the War Memorial complex.

Assistive listening devices are available for use in the Meeting Room and the Board Chamber. A device can be borrowed prior to or during a meeting. Borrower identification is required and must be held by Room 308 staff.

The following services are available on request 48 hours prior to the meeting: For American Sign Language interpreters or the use of reader during a meeting, a sound enhancement system, and/or alternative formats of the agenda and minutes please contact Violeta Mosuela at 554-7704. Late requests will be honored, if possible.

In order to accommodate the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies environmental illness, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City to accommodate these individuals.

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. The Sunshine Ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code) or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force at 554-4851.

City and County of San Francisco **Immigrant Rights Commission**

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: June 3, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall, Room 416
1 Dr. Carlton Goodlett Place

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Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. **Action Item:**
Approval of May 6th 1999 meeting minutes: (5 minutes).

II. **Action Item: (15 minutes)**
Discussion and consideration of resolution urging the state legislature to expand the range citizenship services offered through state funding under the Department of Community Services and Development.

III. **Action Item: (60 minutes)**
Discussion and consideration of resolution urging adoption by the Mayor and Board of Supervisors of legislation establishing minimum standards for multilingual access to essential city services.

IV. **Action Item: (45minutes)**
Discussion and consideration of resolution urging the U.S. Congress and state department to adopt regulations addressing the issues adversely impacting the ability of U.S. citizens of Filipino descent to petition for their adult children.

V. **Action Item: (5 minutes)**
Update on hiring committee activities.

VI. **Action Item: (10 minutes)**
Update on "Raid-Free" Zone legislation and Census 2000 Complete Count Committee

VII. **Next Meeting's Agenda: (10 minutes)**

VIII. **Action Item: (10 minutes):**
Consideration of community locations in the Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhoods for the upcoming July and August IRC meetings.

IX. **Public Comment:**
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

For questions about the meeting please contact John Young at 557-5373.

Disability Access

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(415) 557-6373 P.O. Box 7988 San Francisco, California 94120

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City & County of San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Date: August 26, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: City Hall, Hearing Room 408
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, Ca 94102

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. Public Comment: (60 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

II. Information Item: (10 minutes)
Status Update on local Citizenship work and State Funding

III. Action Item: (20 minutes)
Central American and Haitian Parity Act

IV. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Discussion re: Meeting with Travelodge Management – Follow Up Visit

V. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Status Update on Language Access Coordinator

VI. Information Item: (5 minutes)
Update on Hiring Committee Activities

VII. Information Item: (10 minutes)
Evaluation of Off-Site meetings

VIII. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Discussion of Proposed Attendance Policy for IRC

For questions about the meeting, please contact Commissioner Renee Saucedo at (415)575-3504.
Reminder: Farewell Dinner at Max's Opera Plaza, John Young, Executive Director
6:45 p.m. immediately after the meeting *Farewell Dinner at Max's Opera Plaza*

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Know your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance. The Government's duty is to serve the people, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, Boards, Councils, and other agencies of the city and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance ensures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that city operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance, Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force at (415) 554-6171). Attention: Individuals or entities that influence, or attempt to influence legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyists' Ordinance under the SF Administrative Code 16.520.-16.534 to register and report lobbying activity.for more information on the San Francisco Lobbyists' Ordinance, please contact the San Francisco Ethics Commission at 1390 Market Street, San Francisco CA 94102. Telephone (415) 554-9510.

City & County of San Francisco — Immigrant Rights Commission

Minutes of the regular Immigrant Rights Commission meeting held on Thursday, August 26, 1999 at San Francisco City Hall, Rm. 408.

IRC COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Renee Saucedo (President)
Marie Lorraine Mallare (Vice President)
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimenez
Richard Ow

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STAFF:

Jose Caedo, Special Assistant to the Mayor

The meeting was called to order by the Commission President, Ms. Saucedo at 4:20 p.m.. She noted that the minutes from the previous months' meeting had not yet been typed due to the transition of staff. She further noted that Jose Caedo from the Mayor's Office had volunteered to prepare that day's agenda/notice, and would take the minutes during the meeting. The commissioners thanked Caedo for his assistance.

LANGUAGE ACCESS ORDINANCE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:

Ms. Dania Fernandez, of the Employment Law Center (ELC) presented an update of this legislation. She reported that a meeting was held with the Mayor the previous Tuesday, with Commissioners Saucedo, Huie, Assefa, City Administrator Bill Lee, Supervisor Mabel Teng, among others. The Mayor was positive about the ordinance and suggested that the Immigrants' Rights commission become the enforcement agency for the same. The Mayor also noted that while at present, most city workers were mono-lingual, he expected that in the long term, they would be mostly bi-lingual, and added that this would be needed in the area of health services. Ms. Fernandez also reported that Supervisor Teng expected that the ordinance's implementation would cost up to $1 million, but the cost was thought not to be a concern at present.

Ms. Fernandez observed that the meeting was extremely positive, and that the Mayor suggested that the IRC review what languages would be covered by the ordinance on a regular basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pres. Saucedo opened public comment by stating that the IRC was honored to hear testimony from three Filipino-American organizations, namely, the Filipino First Preference Committee, the Filipino Veterans' Equity Center, and the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center. Commissioner Ow briefly addressed the Filipino Veterans present in the hearing room. He stated that he was also a veteran, having served in the U.S. Armed forces during the Korean War. Commissioner Ow said that the Filipino veterans had a friend in the IRC, Mayor Brown, and the Board of Supervisors, and invited them to come attend the IRC meetings in the future.

Jonathan Lazaro, of the Filipino First Preference Committee, gave a brief historical background on why the aforementioned committee was formed. He spoke of the hardship experienced by the Filipino immigrants due to the longest waiting period for approval on petitions filed by these persons for their relatives who were still in the Philippines, which was up to more than 12 years. Mr. Lazaro added that he and his colleagues felt that some action was necessary in order to alleviate the hardships and remedy the situation. He said that his group had approached the IRC, whose members graciously approved a resolution that would be brought to the attention of the U.S. Congress, and the State Department in order to reduce the waiting time. Mr. Lazaro concluded by addressing the members of the public present during the meeting that he did not promise anything but best efforts, and that the IRC would appreciate receiving testimony that evening from some of those adversely affected by the current immigration policy. He introduced the members of the committee, Ms. Lourdes Tansingco, Esq., Mr. Amancio Liangco, Esq. Mr. Vic Gaerlan, Mr. Mars Estrada, and Mr. Mamerto Canlas.

Ms. Lourdes Tansingco made some opening remarks. She said that it was not the first time their group appeared before the IRC, and wanted to reiterate the unjust and inequitous application of immigration policies that applied exclusively to the filipino community. She further said that the policies were unfair and discriminatory, and action was needed immediately to rectify the situation. This hardship was specially felt by the elderly Filipino-American veterans who recently became immigrants, but were aged in their mid to late 80's who could not afford to wait up to 13 years for their petitions to be approved so that relatives could come to the United States. Ms. Tansingco also observed that many Filipino immigrants have refused to take their oaths of allegiance to become American citizens because this would result in the delay in the processing of the applications for their relatives. She commended the IRC for the support shown in the resolution passed by the Commissioners vis-a-vis this

situation. Ms. Tansingco pointed out that there had been two pieces of legislation recently proposed to address the disparity in the law. The first was HR 2448 introduced by Rep. Mink, R. of Hawaii. Ms. Tansingco requested the IRC to take measures to support the proposed legislation. In addition, the US State Department had drafted a document entitled " The consular Rehabilitation Act of 1999" for possible introduction as legislation. Unfortunately, there was no Federal legislator at present who would like to sponsor this bill. She asked the IRC to assist in this regard.

Mr. Ernesto Garlitos, A Filipino-American resident of San Francisco during the past 14 years, testified on his experience and hardship resulting from the disparity in the immigration policy, as it applied to Filipinos.

He read a prepared statement which provided additional details, and requested the IRC to assist on this matter. Mr. Pedro Dayrit, a Filipino-American resident of San Francisco testified to the hardship and long wait that he had to endure as a result of the immigration policy. This applied also to his wife, who was able to arrive recently, and now also had to wait up to 12 years for their children to arrive. He requested the IRC to assist by asking the Federal legislators to help in this matter. Mr. Bert Santageno, a 79 year old Filipino-American resident of Daly City, related his experience going through the naturalization process. He recounted his hardship in awaiting for his children whom he petitioned for as immigrants to this country. He requested the IRC and the Filipino First Preference committee to work together to bring this situation to the attention of Congress so that it may be corrected. He concluded by saying that family reunification was extremely important. Mr. Vic Gaerlan, of Program Director of the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center Citizenship and Naturalization Assistance Program spoke on the difficulties of the many clients whom he had served at the center. He noted that Filipinos as a group had the highest interest in becoming Americans, and pointed out that the policy in question prevented many from accepting citizenship on the basis of extending the waiting period for their relatives. As one of the first advocates of the unique situation that the Filipino immigrants faced under the inequitous law, he asked the IRC to assist this special needs population toward the remedy of the injustice. Mr. Gaerlan gave a specific case as an example. He added that only the Filipino community faced this type of discrimination in the INS policy.

President Saucedo announced that there were three speakers who asked to specifically speak to the issues and concerns of elderly filipino veterans. Mr. Mars Estrada, Rodrigo Arellano, and Abelardo Ebol. Mr. Estrada spoke on behalf of the veterans' equity Center. He asked all the veterans present to stand up. Mr. Estrada spoke of the valiant contributions of the veterans in defending the United States during the Second World War, and recounted all the inequities faced by this population group from

Federal legislation which deprived them of equal benefits as former US servicemen, and now as Americans in the immigration process. He requested the IRC's help in rectifying the injustice to these elderly people who had very little time to wait for the immigrant visa petitions for their relatives to be approved. Mr. Arellano testified on his experience as one who had undergone hardship under the current naturalization and citizenship process. Mr. Ebol spoke of his personal experience as an immigrant who had been separated from his wife and family for 14 years due to the immigration policies in place. Mr. Ebol added that he had gone through the Immigration and Naturalization Service amnesty program, and related how he, and several thousand Filipino World War II veterans were deprived of their benefits as U.S. servicemen by the Rescission Act of 1946. Mr. Ebol echoed the sentiments of the many veterans present in the hearing room as to the pain and difficulty of long term family separation resulting from the existing INS policies, and requested the IRC's help in correcting the situation.

Mamerto Canlas, Executive Director of the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center, spoke on the efforts of his agency and the Filipino first Preference Committee toward organizing and researching the issues that had been discussed above. His group had collected testimony and documented these, along with compiling numerous letters from Filipino immigrants throughout the United States who were facing hardship and long term family separation as a result of the INS policies, and existing laws. He pointed out to the extreme irony that Filipinos who came to the United States as immigrants with the purpose of improving the quality of life for their families must face separation from their relatives from 12 to 14 years, before the relatives could be issued immigrant visas. Mr. Canlas also spoke on the disadvantages newly arrived Filipino immigrants faced, and gave the language barrier, or economic disadvantages, as some of the many examples. He concluded saying that culturally, or linguistically sensitive services such as those provided by his agency were needed by the Filipino immigrant population, and that the IRC should be aware of these needs. Lourdes Tansingco asked the commissioners for their comments on the presentation. she stated further that the Filipino American community and her committee were looking forward to working with the IRC toward the rectification of the unfairness and injustice in the system, and thanked all the commissioners for their time.

Mr. Rene Pascua, Esq., President of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines in Northern California, and Chairman of Filipino-Americans for Immigrant rights, spoke on the killing of a Filipino-American immigrant, Joseph Ileto who was a postal worker in Southern California. He requested that the IRC adopt a resolution condemning the killing. Mr. Pascua also announced the creation of the Filipino Americans for Immigrant rights, which was open to any interested persons or groups. He spoke of his organization's desire to see dual citizenship for those Filipinos

who had become naturalized American citizens, and invited any interested parties to join. Mr. Mike Imperio, and Mr. David Tejado thanked the IRC for receiving the public comment and working on the issue.

President Saucedo thanked the speakers and audience for their dedication, courage, and commitment to the fight for what was right and moral. she added that the commissioners were with the people in their struggle for justice and to ensure that all Filipino families were brought together. she added that beyond adopting the IRC resolution on the matter, the commissioners would assist the parties further in this regard. President Saucedo said that barring any objection from the commissioners, said resolution would be brought to the San Francisco Board of supervisors, and the Mayor, who in turn will bring the language of the resolution to the attention of the President of the United States, and the U.S. congress. She further added that while a resolution condemning the killing of Joseph Ileto by a racist in Los Angeles could not be voted upon that day, for public notification reasons, she would place this matter on the agenda for September, and would ask the commissioners to consider it for adoption.

Vice President Mallare thanked the speakers and persons who organized the hearing, and added that she had been a news reporter, and the issue was dear to all of the community, and the IRC members. She assured the people that their voices were heard and that the IRC would fight for this issue. Commissioner Ow said that he hoped that the Filipino veterans joined other veterans' organizations such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars that regularly met at the War Memorial building. He added that in addition to the resolution that would be passed by the IRC, and relayed to the Board of supervisors and the Mayor on the issue, he hoped that the organizers would bring the issue to the attention of the offices of the local congressional delegation for further action. Commissioner Huie thanked the people for bringing the issue to the IRc atention, and expressed concern for the lack of a sponsor for HR 2448, or the draft State Department document and said that perhaps a local sponsor could be found to advocate these. Commissioner Jimenez said that he was a practicing Attorney and was familiar with the issue, and thanked the organizers. He further stated that it was time that the community had leaders who could voice out the concerns, especially on immigration issues, and particularly the long waiting period that was unique to Filipino immigrants. He also proposed a resolution to condemn the killing of Joseph Ileto. Commissioner Assefa thanked the people for coming and informing the IRC on the issue, specially the various organizations involved. He also thanked the Filipino veterans who fought so that the IRC commissioners could, in turn, fight for and defend the rights of other immigrants. As far as the First Preference issue was concerned, he said that the IRC was with the people, and would do everything in their power to see that justice would be served. He stated that the people owed it to themselves to keep informed on the IRC activities and to remind

the commissioners and speak to the issues as well. Commissioner Ecarma thanked the people for coming, and noted that he too was a Filipino veteran and newly arrived immigrant. He re-introduced himself by saying that he was a retired general of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, who was the son of a Philippine Army captain who served in the United States Armed forces in the Far East (USAFFE) during the second world War, and noted the effect of the US Rescission Act of 1946. Finally, he briefly spoke on his personal knowledge on how the First Preference issue adversely impacted one of his relatives. Having also been personally affected by the policies in question, he said that the IRC would see to it that the community concerns would be adequately addressed. Commissioner Chronis thanked the people for their powerful and moving comments. She noted that if a petitioner passed away, the petition for the relatives would die with that person. So, not only are the petitioners denied family unity during their lifetime, but their children are denied the right of citizenship in this country, which was an additional injustice. Jose Caedo announced that apropos of the proposed IRC resolution there was to be a multi-cultural/sectoral memorial service for Joseph Ileto on Tuesday, August 31 7:00 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Church on Mission Street. President Saucedo and the IRC commissioners stood up and applauded the elderly veterans.

STATUS UPDATE ON LOCAL CITIZENSHIP WORK AND STATE FUNDING:

Commissioner Isable Huie reported that there had been three organizations receiving State funding and which were involved in assisting local residents in citizenship work. these agencies were: _____?) I could not hear the names because of the noise wile the audience was exiting the room) These agencies had asked the IRC to sponsor a press conference during the same day that the commission would hold its regular meeting in September, to help them publicize their work. It was suggested that the press conference be held approximately Three to Three thirty in the afternoon. President Saucedo said that she preferred that the regular IRC meetings be moved back to the first Thursdays of each month, but since that day's meeting had been held close to the end of August, perhaps the September meeting should be held sometime mid-month, and proposed September 16 as the meeting date. She inquired about who among the IRC commissioners could attend the press conference at that time. Commissioner Ow inquired if it would be possible to reserve the Board of supervisors' chambers for that particular meeting. President Saucedo asked Caedo if he could assist in this regard, and he volunteered his assistance. Commissioner Chronis noted that not all the IRC Commissioners had been receiving their agendas, and that some contact information for the commissioners were outdated. She suggested that the contact information for all the IRC members be updated, and asked that the agendas be sent out a week before the meetings. President Saucedo noted that there was an ongoing transition and that a new Executive Director needed to be hired. A sign up sheet for this purpose was passed around.

CENTRAL AMERICAN AND HAITIAN PARITY ACT:

President Saucedo said that she was in receipt of a letter from the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights, which contained proposed language for the resolution. Since the person scheduled to make the presentation on the proposed resolution was unable to attend, she proposed that discussion on the matter either be tabled, or that the commissioners review the documents and have a discussion. Commissioner Chronis proposed to table the matter, and requested for copies of the resolution to be distributed. The motion was adopted without objection.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED MEETING BETWEEN IRC MEMBERS AND TRAVEL LODGE MANAGEMENT:

President Saucedo stated that she had requested that the item be placed on the agenda because of the resolution adopted during a previous IRC meeting concerning Local 2 workers at the Travel Lodge at Market and Valencia Streets who were fired by management simply because the workers received letters from the social Security Administration stating that there was no match with the worker's Social Security numbers. The Local 2 Union and the workers involved made a presentation and testified before the IRC regarding this matter, with the result that the IRC adopted a resolution condemning the Travel Lodge action. In furtherance of the IRC resolution, President Saucedo proposed that a committee be formed to hand deliver the resolution to the Travel Lodge management, on behalf of the aggrieved workers and Local 2. The message was that the IRC was aware of the incident, that the action was condemned, and would like the workers involved to be reinstated. Commissioner Chronis noted that a group had been previously formed to go to the Social Security Administration, and the Congressional Representative on this issue, so that the same group could also go to the travel Lodge for this purpose. The group was comprised of Commissioners Chronis, Schencker, Ow, Huie, and Saucedo. Commissioner Ow observed that this issue had been brought to the attention of the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, Mr. Bill Lam Lee, and suggested that a person who was working on this issue at the Labor Studies Center, University of California at Berkeley, also be contacted, and added some comments regarding INS raids at worksites, and how arrests could be done in a less objectionable manner. President Saucedo asked the commissioners to note that aside from the information regarding the Coalition on Immigrant Rights, and Language Access ordinance in their packets, there was information on a planning meeting which she had helped to facilitate because the mayor had agreed to meet with the community to hear what immigrants would like him to say to the Federal Immigration authorities under the INS raid-free resolution. This resolution was not purely symbolic since this would be the first time that the Mayor of a major City

will tell the Director of the INS that there was no desire for that agency to conduct raids within the City and county. She invited the commissioners to the planning meeting that will be held on September 25, which was the date the Mayor had agreed to meet the immigrant communities, for the aforesaid purpose. The meeting will be held at the auditorium of 474 Valencia street, from 11 to 12:30 p.m. on September 25th.

STATUS UPDATE OF THE LANGUAGE ACCESS ORDINANCE:

President Saucedo reported that the Mayor had fully committed to fund the implementation of this proposed legislation. Supervisor Teng's support on this issue was extremely helpful. Mr. Bill Lee the City Administrator was also present. The language of the legislation was currently being refined with the assistance of a number of organizations helping Supervisor Teng's staff, who were also working with a person in the Mayors budget office. The Mayor had also committed to fund one full-time staff person to ensure that the legislation would be enforced throughout the various City Departments, since the IRc would be the enforcing arm for the law.

UPDATE ON HIRING COMMITTEE:

The commissioners on the hiring committee were: Commissioners Mallare, Ow, Huie, and Saucedo. They are working with the Department of Administrative Services, since the IRC would be housed in that Department. Mr. Bill Lee, the city administrator, was helping out in the hiring process, as well as Ms. Emerson from the Mayor's Budget Office since the new Executive Director would also be working on the Census 2000 effort for the City. More than 10 resumes had been received for the position, with the time limit for accepting resumes closed. Interviews had been shceduled for September, and if no one had been hired by then, the process would be reopened. Commissioner Ow asked some clarification on the duties and reporting responsibilities of the Director.

EVALUATION OF OFF-SITE MEETINGS:

Without objection, discussion on this item was tabled.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR IRC:

President Saucedo reported that she had discussions with Commissioner Mallare, and it had been also been discussed informally and formally among the commissioners about the inconsistent attendance of some members. It was noted that the IRC commissioners present were those who had been regularly attending the meetings. She suggested that some IRC members or volunteers draft an attendance policy so that with clearance from the City Attorney's Office, IRC members could be notified of their lack of attendance and be requested to step down. Deputy City Attorney Koshue said that the IRC itself could not ask a member to step down, but the commission may ask the appointing power such as

the Mayor or Supervisor to ask the commissioner/s in question to step down. Information regarding which Supervisor appointed which commissioner was available at the City Attorney's office. There was some discussion as to whether commissioners should be asked to voluntarily resign at that point, or wait until a new attendance policy was in place. Commissioner Mallare stated that since Mr. John Young had resigned, and Ms. Walker was no longer assisting the IRC, Jose Caedo might be able to contact the various commissioners to verify whether they would still be interested in serving on the IRC. President Saucedo said that she would write a letter for all the commissioners and asked Jose Caedo to follow up with telephone calls. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

City & County of San Francisco — Immigrant Rights Commission

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Date: Thursday, September 16, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: City Hall, Hearing Room 250
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment.

I. Public Comment: (60 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction on of the Commission.

II. Information Item: (10 minutes)
Status Update on local Citizenship work & Awards Presentation

III. Action Item: (10 minutes)
Resolution condemning the Death of Joseph Ileto

IV. Action Item: (20 minutes)
Central American and Haitian Parity Act

V. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Discussion re: Meeting with Travelodge Management – Follow Up Visit

VI. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Status Update on Language Access Coordinator

VII. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Update on Hiring Committee Activities – Presentation of Selected Candidate for Executive Director position to the Commission

VIII. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Discussion of Proposed Attendance Policy for IRC

For questions about the meeting, please contact Renee Saucedo, Chair, at (415) 575-3504.

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Date: Thursday, October 7, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: City Hall, Hearing Room 416
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlet Place
San Francisco, Ca 94102

Agenda

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceeded by discussion and public comment

I. Public Comment: (60 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiciton of the Commission.

II. Action Item: (20 minutes)
Central American and Haitian Parity Act

III. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Update: Travelodge Management

IV. Information Item: (5 minutes)
Update on INS Raid-Free Zone Resolution

V. Information Item: (5 minutes)
Update on Executive Director Hiring

VI. Information Item: (10 minutes)
Evaluation of Off-Site meetings

VII. Information Item: (10 minutes)
Public Housing for Immigrants

VIII. Information Item: (5 minutes)
Draft Proposed Attendance Policy for IRC

For questions about the meeting, please contact Rene Saucedo at 575-3504.

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of October 7, 1999

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) meeting was held on Thursday, October 7, 1999 in the Hearing Room 416 in the City Hall.

Members Present Renee Saucedo, Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Fidel Jimeniz, Anita Friedman, Thou Ny, Richard Ow, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker.

Members Absent Marie Lorraine Malare, Philip Nguyen, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
Jill Lerner, City Administrator's Office
Ramon Cardoza, Central American Refugee Center
Rand Quinn, Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights
Carlos Romero, Mission Housing Development Corp.
Tony Ucciferri, San Francisco Housing Authority
Duane Walker, San Francisco Housing Authority

Minutes No minutes of the last meeting on September 9, 1999 available for the Commission to adopt at this meeting.

Presentations Ramon Cardoza from the Central American Refugee Center and a group of three fellow immigrants came to ask the Commission to fully endorse the bill HR 2722 (Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act) being considered by the 106th Congress. The speakers also mentioned that the proposed legislation has been supported by a large number of the members of Congress. There was a similar legislation introduced in the Senate. The purpose of this legislation is to adjust the immigration status for certain nationals from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Haiti.

Duane Walker and Tony Ucciferri from the San Francisco Housing Authority discussed the new rule regarding restrictions on housing assistance for non-citizens: applicants, residents and section 8 participants. The applicant will be required to sign a release form in order for the Housing Authority to verify his/her immigration status with the Immigration & Naturalization Services (INS). If INS tells the Housing Authority that the applicant does not have eligible immigrant status, the applicant will be given a chance to appeal to the INS. The speakers also mentioned that housing assistance may be prorated, terminated or denied upon a family's final determination. Prorated assistance permits only the number

City and County of San Francisco
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Date: November 4, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: Hearing Room 416 - City Hall

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Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: *Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment*

I. Action Item: (5 minutes)
Approval of October 7 meeting minutes

II. Director's Report: (10 minutes)
Monthly report from the Commission's Executive Director

III. Public Comment: (50 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission

IV. Presentation: (25 minutes)
Update on the progress of the city and countywide to assure a full and accurate count of immigrant communities in the upcoming Census 2000

V. Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings: (15 minutes)
Discuss the status of the draft of the legislation on the Language Access Ordinance

VI. Presentation & Discussion of Actions for Future Meetings: (10 minutes)
Discussion on recent ruling to restrict the public housing assistance for non-citizens in section 8 program

VII. Next Meeting's Agenda: (5 minutes)

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

City Hall, Room 362, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102
TEL (415) 554-7583; FAX (415) 554-6177

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DISABILITY ACCESS

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42 Downtown Loop
49 Van Ness-Mission
F-Market & Muni Metro (Civic Center Station)

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of November 4, 1999

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) meeting was held on Thursday, November 4, 1999 in the Hearing Room 416 in the City Hall.

Members Present Renee Saucedo, Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Dale Jimenez, Anita Friedman, Thou Ny, Richard Ow.

Members Absent Isabel Huie, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Philip Nguyen, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney
Vera Haile, President of the Advisory Council of the San Francisco Commission on Aging
Rand Quinn, Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights
Johanna Silva, US Census Bureau in San Francisco
Sergie Ponomarov, US Census Bureau in San Francisco

Minutes The minutes of the October 7, 1999 meeting was adopted by the Commission.

Presentations Ms. Vera Haile, President of the Advisory Council to the San Francisco Commission on Aging spoke to the Commission and expressed a need for the Commission to continue to provide a voice for the city's immigrants. Ms. Haile also indicated her eagerness to work with the Commission to address the need of the immigrant elderly and their families. She explained details of the services which are provided by the San Francisco Commission on Aging.

Johanna Silva and Sergie Ponomarov from the San Francisco office of the U.S. Census Bureau came and gave a presentation on the importance of the complete count in the Census 2000. Ms. Silva also expressed a need for the immigrant community to fully participate in the upcoming Census. Mr. Ponomarov discussed the influx in the number of Russian immigrants in Northern California, especially the Bay area. A package information kit was given out.

Rand Quinn from the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights informed the Commission about the grass root efforts in the community to assist the potential immigrants who may impacted by the new rule regarding restrictions on housing assistance for non-citizens: applicants, residents and section 8 participants. Mr.

Quinn suggested that the Commission should request the Housing Authority to provide their data to show how many immigrant families will be impacted by this new rule. Mr. Quinn informed the Commission of their upcoming housing meeting on November 10th from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 2940 16th Street, San Francisco (corner of South Van Ness Avenue and 16th Street). Mr. Quinn also invited the Commission to attend the community briefing on the Equal Access to Services legislation on November 18th at Chinese for Affirmative Action office in Chinatown from 3 to 5 p.m.

Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney discussed with the Commission regarding the language of the newly introduced "Equal Access To Services" legislation. Mr. Kashou also reviewed with the Commission the role, duties and responsibilities of the Commission.

Other

Commissioner Saucedo, Chairperson, reminded all the Commissioners that they need to arrive on time so the meeting can start right at 4:30 p.m. and she also pointed out that in order for the Commission meeting to proceed, the Commission must meet the quorum (8 members).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Date: December 2, 1999
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: Hearing Room 416 - City Hall

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

1999

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: *Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment*

I. Minutes (Action Item): (5 minutes)
Approval of November 4th meeting minutes

II. Public Comment: (40 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission

III. Director's Report: (10 minutes)
Monthly report from the Executive Director

IV. Language Access Ordinance: (15 minutes)
Update of the status of the introduced legislation on the Language Access Ordinance

V. Housing Authority (Action Item): (10 minutes)
Request the Housing Authority to provide the statistical data of immigrant families who might be impacted by the new federal housing law which restricts housing assistance to legal residents and citizens only in public housing and the section 8 program.

VI. Immigration & Naturalization Services: (5 minutes)
Follow-up with the Mayor regarding the meeting with the regional Immigration and Naturalization Services

VII. Commission Representation (Action Item): (5 minutes)
Discussion on the issue of representation for the Commission in future hearings, meetings or public activities

VIII. Commission Membership (Action Item): (10 minutes)
Discussion of the request for the appointment to replace the members of the Commission whose terms have expired or who have resigned

IX. Commission Planning (Action Item): (5 minutes)
Discussion on the future planning for the Commission such as: Commission retreat, required yearly report, etc.

City Hall, Room 362, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102
TEL (415) 554-7583; FAX (415) 554-6177

X. **Commission Powers and Duties** (10 minutes)
Discussion on parameters of the powers and duties of the Commission

XI. **Next Meeting's Agenda** (5 minutes)

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of December 2, 1999

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) meeting was held on Thursday, December 2, 1999 in the Hearing Room 416 in the City Hall.

Members Present Renee Saucedo, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Philip Nguyen, Thou Ny and Richard Ow.

Members Absent Samuel Assefa, Anita Friedman, Dale Jimenez, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney
Mark Silverman, Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Maria Orellana, El Salvadoran immigrant
Beeir Gasi, Bosnian immigrant

Minutes The minutes of the November 4, 1999 meeting was adopted by the Commission.

Presentations Mark Silverman, the staff attorney with the Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) in San Francisco provided the Commission with their press release regarding the case of Maria Argelia Orellana. She is a 30-year-old Salvadoran immigrant who is expecting her first child in February 2000 and she is facing deportation from United States on or before November 12, 1999. Mrs. Orellana came to the United States in December 1990 from her war-torn country of El Salvador. Because she came to this country in December 1990 rather than September 1990, she is unable to apply for permanent residence under the current NACARA law. If Salvadorans were to be granted the same benefits as Nicaraguans and Cubans under NACARA, she would only have to prove that she was in the United States since December 1995.

Her husband, Beeir Gasi, came to the United States in 1994 as a refugee from Bosnia. In February 1999, he applied for U.S. citizenship, but because of the Immigration & Naturalization services (INS) backlog in processing naturalization applications, he does not know when he will become a citizen. His visa petition, filed two years ago, on behalf of Maria Orellana has already been approved, but because he is only a permanent resident, Maria is unable to adjust her status in the United States at this time.

Maria Orellana and her husband, Becir Gasi are afraid for their immigration status. They have no idea when and if she will be able to return to the United States. Becir Gasi would like to be with his wife when their baby is born, but if she leaves, that will be impossible.

Mark Silverman, Maria Orellana and Becir Gasi requested that the Immigrant Rights Commission ask the Mayor and the President of the Board of Supervisors, Tom Ammiano, to send a letter to the INS Regional Director to take the following actions:

1. the INS will not remove or otherwise force Ms. Orellana to depart from the United States until her husband has had the opportunity to become the US citizen and complete the immigrant visa petition for her;
2. expedite the naturalization process, especially the swearing-in ceremony for Becir Gasi.

Maria Orellana and Becir Gasi urge the Commission to ask the US Congress to enact SB 1592 that would amend the provisions of the Nicaraguan Adjustment and central American Relief Act (NACARA) provide the same treatment to Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans and Haitians that is provided for Nicaraguans and Cubans.

Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney discussed with the Commission regarding the language of the legislation, which created the Immigrant Rights Commission. Mr. Kashou also reviewed with the Commission the role, duties and responsibilities of the Commission.

Mr. Kashou explained to the Commission that the Comm ission's enabling legislation requires Commissioner's initial terms of office be set by lottery. The Commission unanimously decided to determine the term of office for each of the Commissioners at the meeting. The Commissioners present at the meeting participated in the lottery themselves; the absent Commissioners lots were picked by Mr. Kashou and Mr. Pham. This is the result of the lottery:

1.	Commissioner Saucedo	3 year term
2.	Commissioner Mallare	3 year-term
3.	Commissioner Assefa	2 year-term
4.	Commissioner Earma	3 year-term
5.	Commissioner Chronis	3 year-term
6.	Commissioner Friedman	2 year-term
7.	Commissioner Huie	3 year-term
8.	Commissioner Jimenez	3 year-term

9.	Commissioner Nguyen	3 year-term
10.	Commissioner Ny	3 year-term
11.	Commissioner Ow	2 year-term
12.	Commissioner Ramirez	2 year-term
13.	Commissioner Schenker	2 year-term
14.	Commissioner Sprague	2 year-term
15.	Commissioner Thai	2 year-term

Other

The Commission unanimously voted to follow-up with the Mayor's Office regarding the meeting between the Mayor and the Regional Director of INS as Mayor Brown promised during the meeting with the community few months ago.

Commissioner Saucedo, Chairperson, also reminded all the Commissioners that they need to arrive on time so the meeting can start right at 4:30 p.m. and she also pointed out that in order for the Commission meeting to proceed, the Commission must meet the quorum (8 members).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Date: January 6, 2000
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Place: Hearing Room 416 - City Hall

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

12000
Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: *Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment*

I. Minutes (Action Item): (5 minutes)
Approval of December 2nd meeting minutes.

II. Public Comment: (40 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

III. Future Meeting in the Mission District (Action Item): (15 minutes)
Request to hold the next Commission meeting in the Mission District area to discuss the impact on immigrants in San Francisco of the new guidelines of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

IV. Director's Report: (5 minutes)
Monthly report from the Executive Director.

V. Language Access Ordinance: (10 minutes)
Update of the status of the introduced legislation on the Language Access Ordinance.

VI. Change Meeting Time (Action Item): (10 minutes)
The Commission will discuss and take action on the request by Commissioner Mallare to move the starting time of the Commission meeting from 4:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

VII. Immigration & Naturalization Service (Action Item): (5 minutes)
Regarding the meeting between the Mayor and the regional Immigration and Naturalization Services as promised.

VIII. Commission Planning (Action Item): (10 minutes)
Discussion on the future planning for the Commission such as: Commission retreat, required yearly report, etc.

IX. Commission Powers and Duties: (15 minutes)
Continue to discuss parameters of the powers and duties of the Commission.

XII. Next Meeting's Agenda (5 minutes)

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of January 6, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) meeting was held on Thursday, January 6, 2000 in the Hearing Room 416 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall.

Members Present Renee Saucedo, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Dale Jimenez, Thou Ny and Richard Ow.

Members Absent Samuel Assefa, Anita Friedman, Philip Nguyen, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Sehenker, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Exeeutive Direetor of the IRC
Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney
Emil DeGuzman, Human Rights Commission

Minutes The minutes of the Deeember 2, 1999 meeting was adopted by the Commission.

Presentation: Mr. Emil DeGuzman of the San Franeiseo Human Rights Commission provided the Commission with the situation of Christopher Grion Camat. Ms. Camat is a Filipino immigrant who want to return to his homeland to partieipate in his eountry's Olympie Boxing Team, but he was warned by the INS that he might not able to return to the United States due to his pending immigration status. Mr. DeGuzman also asked the Commission to voiee the support on behalf of Mr. Camat.

Other The Commission unanimously voted to follow-up with the Mayor's Offiee regarding the meeting between the Mayor and the Regional Direetor of INS as Mayor Brown promised during the meeting with the community few months ago.

The Commission would like to invite the Survival International to make a presentation at the next meeting based on the reeommendation of Commissioner Assafa.

The Commission unanimously voted to move the starting time of the monthly Commission meeting from 4:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

Commissioner Saueedo, Chairperson, also reminded all the Commissioners that they need to arrive on time so the meeting ean start right at 4:30 p.m. and she also pointed out that in order for the Commission meeting to proeeed, the Commission must meet the quorum (8 members).

The Commission approved to hold the Commission next meeting in Mission Distriet area.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

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Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

Date: February 3, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Centro Del Pueblo
474 Valencia Street – 2nd Floor Auditorium

AGENDA

Note: *Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment*

I. Minutes (Action Item): (5 minutes)
Approval of January 6th meeting minutes.

II. Public Comment: (20 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

III. Presentation: (55 minutes)
Presentation by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) staff on the impact on immigrants in San Francisco of their new guidelines.

IV. Director's Report: (10 minutes)
Monthly report from the Executive Director.

V. Update on Census 2000 Outreach Project: (15 minutes)
Update of the status of the outreach project for the Census 2000.

VI. Language Access Ordinance: (10 minutes)
Update of the status of the introduced legislation on the Language Access Ordinance.

VII. Next Meeting's Agenda (5 minutes)

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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Rachel Arnstine O'Hara, Clerk
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall – Room 362
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4683
(415) 554-6171 (Office)
(415) 554-6177 (Fax)
E-mail: Rachel_ArnstineO'Hara@ci.sf.ca.us

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City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2000 AT 5:00 P.M., HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO **THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2000 AT 5:00 P.M.**, AT CENTRO DEL PUEBLO, 2ND FLOOR AUDITORIUM, 474 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISO, CALIFORNIA.

Dang T. Pham
Executive Director

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City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

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Notice of Meeting and Agenda

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Vice Chairperson

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Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

Date: March 2, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Centro Del Pueblo
474 Valencia Street – 2nd Floor Auditorium

AGENDA

Note: *Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment*

I. Minutes (Action Item): (5 minutes)
Approval of January 6th meeting minutes.

II. Public Comment: (20 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

III. Presentation: (65 minutes)
1. Presentation by Yangchen Lakar, Outreach Manager of the Survivals International
2. Presentation by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) staff on the impact on immigrants in San Francisco of their new guidelines.

IV. Director's Report: (10 minutes)
Monthly report from the Executive Director.

V. Update on Census 2000 Outreach Project: (5 minutes)
Update of the status of the outreach project for the Census 2000.

VI. Language Access Ordinance: (10 minutes)
Update of the status of the introduced legislation on the Language Access Ordinance.

VII. Next Meeting's Agenda (5 minutes)

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
COMMUNITY MEETING

What can the City do to promote immigrant rights?
What are the new guidelines of
The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)?

- *Housing*
- *Education*
- *Equal Opportunity*
- *Census 2000*
- *Other issues in immigrant Communities*

We need to hear from you!

Thursday, March 2, 2000
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Centro Del Pueblo
474 Valencia Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
2nd Floor Auditorium

For more information, please call
Renee Saucedo at 415-575-3504
or Dang Pham at 415-554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of March 3, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) community meeting was held on Thursday, March 3, 2000 at 474 Valencia Street - 2nd Floor, San Francisco at 5:00 P.M.

Members Present Renee Saucedo, Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Dale Jimenez, Philip Nguyen, Thou Ny and Richard Ow.

Members Absent Anita Friedman, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, and Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC, Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney

Minutes The minutes of the January 6, 2000 meeting was adopted by the Commission.

Presentation: Ms. Yangchen Lakar, Outreach Manager of the Survivors International (SI) explained their mission and programs to the Commission. SI strives to raise public awareness about torture and the need to abolish its use by world governments. The SI's clinical outreach program was launched in April 1997, funded by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) in Washington, DC, for consultation and training of clinicians, refugee service providers, volunteers, immigrants and refugee communities in the Bay area. SI has regular conference calls with other U.S. treatment centers and maintains ongoing contacts with Canadian centers. The organization has also been involved in an advisory capacity in the development of new treatment centers in the U.S. and abroad.

A legal staff person from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), San Francisco District Office, discussed the EEOC's new guidelines for immigrants and refugees regarding the employment discrimination and sexual harassment.

Public Comments: A woman immigrant shared her concerns regarding the INS operation in San Francisco. She also informed the Commission of the upcoming press conference called by Supervisor Tom Ammiano in front of City Hall on Thursday, March 9, 2000 at noon time to declare San Francisco an INS raid-free zone. In the past, the Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to declare San Francisco an INS raid-free zone.

Mr. Samson Wong, member of the San Francisco Citizen's Advisory Committee on Elections informed the Commission of their upcoming hearings to seek comment on the Election Department's customer service, accessibility, and efficiency. Mr. Wong also indicated that the final report would be due in mid April 2000.

Mr. Richard Ow, a candidate for the Democratic Central Committee shared his concern and frustration as a candidate. His name was misspelled on the ballot and the Election Department's effort to correct the error was not adequate.

Other The Commission unanimously recommended to invite the Regional Director of INS to speak at the Commission's next meeting regarding their operation guidelines during the

Census 2000 count period.

The Commission approved to hold the next meeting in City Hall, Room 416 on April 6, 2000 at 5:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Meeting Information

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Immigrant Rights Commission

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Notice of Meeting and Agenda

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Anita Friedman
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Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

Date: April 6, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

AGENDA

Note: *Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment*

I. Public Comment: (20 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

II. Presentation: (45 minutes)
1. Presentation by Coalition for Ethnical Welfare Reform
2. Presentation by the Filipino American Educators on the reduction of funding for bilingual education in San Francisco Unified School District

III. Director's Report: (10 minutes)
Monthly report from the Executive Director.

IV. Update on Census 2000 Outreach Project: (15 minutes)
Update of the status of the outreach project for the Census 2000.

V. Language Access Ordinance: (10 minutes)
Update of the status of the introduced legislation on the Language Access Ordinance.

VI. Annual Report: (15 minutes)
Discuss about the annual report to the Board of Supervisors

VII. Next Meeting's Agenda (5 minutes)

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of April 6, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) meeting was held on Thursday, April 6, 2000 at San Francisco City Hall, Hearing Room 416, at 5:00 P.M.

Members Present Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Isabel Huie, Dale Jimenez, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Thou Ny, Richard Ow and Natividad Ramirez.

Members Absent Renato Ecarma, Anita Friedman, Philip Nguyen, Renee Saucedo, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, and Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
William Chan, Deputy City Attorney

Adoption of Previous Minutes The minutes of the March 2, 2000 meeting were adopted by the Commission.

Presentation: Mr. David Still, Deputy District Director of the Immigration & Naturalization Services (INS), spoke to the Commission about the INS guidelines for operations during Census 2000. Mr. Still emphasized that INS fully supports the Census Bureau's effort to have all persons participate in Census 2000, regardless of their immigration status. It is the longstanding view of the Department of Justice and INS that the Constitution requires all inhabitants of the United States, including illegal aliens, to be counted in the census. Special consideration and supervisory review of enforcement actions will occur during the census. National security and public safety operations, however, will go forward. According to Mr. Still, the INS issued guidance to its field offices emphasizing the special steps to be taken in regard to enforcement operations during Census 2000.

Ms. Rebecca Vilkomerson, a representative of the Homeless Prenatal Program and Coalition for Ethical Welfare Reform informed the Commission about the new fingerprinting regulation for CalWORK and food stamps recipients. Ms. Vilkomerson expressed her view that the fingerprinting regulation will have a negative effect on both immigrants and non-immigrants who rely on public benefits. She urged the Commission to send a resolution to the Board of

Supervisors that would direct the Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver to find an alternative method to comply with the intent of the law. The Commission agreed to draft a resolution with Ms. Vilkomerson within the next few IRC meetings.

Margaret Lacson, Producer/ Anchor for the Filipino American Report of KMTP-TV 32, spoke to the Commission on behalf of the Filipino Language Center (FLC). According to Mrs. Lacson, FLC will be relocated and the number of teachers assigned to the center also will be reduced from 5 to 3 due to the decrease of Filipino students. Mrs. Lacson provided the Commission with a brief summary about the FLC. The Center was established in 1977as a Filipino newcomer school within the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD). It is located at the corner of 4th and Harrison Streets. Of the 56 students enrolled at the school, all are Filipino. Thirty of them receive free lunch, and 11 receive reduced lunch, an indication of low-income.

In regard to the update on the Language Access Ordinance, Commissioner Huie reported to the Commission that according to Sandra Lee, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Mabel Teng, a few steps have been taken concerning the Language Access Ordinance. The Mayor's Office wants some amendments because of the projected high cost of the ordinance. The Board of Supervisors and the Mayor are sending out surveys to 15 tier 1 departments to ask for a specific cost estimate and methodology used to arrive at their estimation. When the surveys are returned and the Mayor's Office and the Board's budget analyst are satisfied with the cost figures, it will be scheduled for a Housing and Social Policy Committee hearing.

Next Meeting: The Commission approved next meeting to be held in City Hall, Room 416 on May 4, 2000 at 5:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

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Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

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Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

Date: **May 4, 2000**
Time: **5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**
Place: **City Hall – Room 416**
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I.	**Roll Call**	
II.	**Minutes** *(Action Item)*	(5 minutes)
III.	**Public Comment:**	(15 minutes)
	Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.	
IV.	**Presentation** *(Discussion Item)*	(20 minutes)
	Presentation by the Filipino American Educators on the reduction of funding for bilingual education in San Francisco Unified School District	
V.	**Director's Report** *(Discussion Item):*	(15 minutes)
	Monthly report from the Executive Director.	
VI.	**Update on Census 2000 Outreach Project** *(Discussion Item):*	(15 minutes)
VII.	**Commission Retreat**	(15 minutes)
	Plan for the Commission retreat	
VIII.	**Annual Report** *(Discussion Item)*:	(30 minutes)
	Discuss annual report to Board of Supervisors	
IX.	**Next Meeting's Agenda** *(Action Item)*	(5 minutes)
X.	**Adjournment**	

For questions about the meeting, please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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4/00

Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of May 4, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) meeting was held on Thursday, May 4, 2000 in the Hearing Room 416 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall.

Members Present Renee Saucedo, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Philip Nguyen, Thou Ny and Richard Ow.

Members Absent Samuel Assefa, Anita Friedman, Dale Jimenez, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
Mario Kashou, Deputy City Attorney

Minutes The minutes of the April 6, 2000 meeting was adopted by the Commission.

Presentation: Ms. Bernadette Sy and a number of Filipino parents have raised the issues related to the Filipino Education Center (FEC) in San Francisco Unified School District.
The Filipino parents want to see that their children deserve a strong and seamless bilingual education from kindergarten to high school. The Filipino Education Center received the seal of excellence award this school year from the California Association for Bilingual education (CABE). FEC enhances the social and effective development of the Filipino students through the educational programs.

Ms. Margaret Leung of the Chinese Program at Newcomer High School shared with the Commission of her great concerns regarding the decision of the San Francisco Unified School District to relocate the Newcomer High School from Pacifica to Mission.

Other Commission voted to establish a committee of 5 members to work directly with the Executive Director to plan for the Commission's Retreat and the annual report to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

RETREAT PLANNING MEETING
City Hall
Tuesday, May 30, 2000

AGENDA

I. Discussion:
- Date
- Time
- Location
- Cost
- Theme

II. Planning:
- Mission & Goal & Objectives
- Attendance Policy
- Membership
- Issue Committees

III. Misc. Items

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Immigrant Rights Commission

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Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

Date: June 1, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. Roll Call

II. Minutes *(Action Item)* (5 minutes)

III. Public Comment: (15 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

IV. Director's Report *(Discussion Item):* (15 minutes)
Monthly report from the Executive Director.

V. Update on Census 2000 Outreach Project *(Discussion Item)* (10 minutes)

VI. Commission Retreat *(Action Item)* (45 minutes)
Planning for the Commission retreat

VII. Annual Report *(Discussion Item)*: (25 minutes)
Discuss annual report to Board of Supervisors

VIII. Next Meeting's Agenda *(Action Item)* (5 minutes)

IX. Adjournment

For questions about the meeting, please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of June 1, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) meeting was held on Thursday, June 1, 2000 in the Hearing Room 416 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall.

Members Present Samuel Assefa, Renee Saucedo, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Dale Jimenez, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Thou Ny and Richard Ow.

Members Absent Anita Friedman, Phillip Nguyen, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
William Chan, Deputy City Attorney

Minutes The minutes of the May 4, 2000 meeting was adopted by the Commission.

Presentation: A number of Filipino parents continued to raise the issues related to the Filipino Education Center (FEC) in San Francisco Unified School District.
The Filipino parents want to see that their children deserve a strong and seamless bilingual education from kindergarten to high school. The Filipino Education Center received the seal of excellence award this school year from the California Association for Bilingual education (CABE). FEC enhances the social and effective development of the Filipino students through the educational programs.

Ms. Margaret Leung and five immigrant students of Newcomer High School shared with the Commission of their concerns regarding the decision of the San Francisco Unified School District to relocate the Newcomer High School from Pacifica to Mission.

Other Commission voted to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2000 in City Hall, Room 416 to consider the resolution to the Board of Education in support of the Filipino Education Center and retain the Newcomer High School at its current location.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

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Notice of Special Meeting and Agenda

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

Date: June 6, 2000
Time: 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. **Roll Call**

II. **Public Comment:** (10 minutes)
Comments may be directed to any item on or off the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

III. **Presentation** *(Action Item)* (35 minutes)

1. San Francisco Unified School District
2. Newcomer High School – San Francisco Unified School District
3. Filipino Education Center – San Francisco Unified School District
4. Filipino Task Force on AIDS

IV. **Asian & Pacific Islanders Heritage Celebration** *(Action Item)* (10 minutes)

V. **Next Meeting's Agenda** *(Action Item)* (5 minutes)

VI. **Adjournment**

For questions about the meeting, please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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TEL (415) 554-7583; FAX (415) 554-6177

Donna Hall, Clerk
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall – Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4683
(415) 554-5184 (Office)
(415) 554-5163 (Fax)
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DISABILITY ACCESS

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42 Downtown Loop
49 Van Ness-Mission
F-Market & Muni Metro (Civic Center Station)

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of Special Meeting on June 6, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) special meeting was held on Tuesday, June 6, 2000 in the Hearing Room 416 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall.

Members Present	Renee Saucedo, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Dale Jimenez, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Richard Ow and Natividad Ramirez.
Members Absent	Samuel Assefa, Anita Friedman, Phillip Nguyen, Thou Ny, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, Nam Thai.
Others Present	Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC William Chan, Deputy City Attorney Dr. Sally Chou, Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services, San Francisco Unified School District
Presentation	Dr. Chou, Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services of the San Francisco Unified School District, spoke to the Commission about the district's commitment to provide the best educational program to all students. She indicated that there are on-going efforts to work with Filipino parents to better address the needs of the Filipino immigrant students. Dr. Chou also provided the Commission with the reason for recommending that the Board of Education move the Newcomer High School to another location. According to Dr. Sally Chou, Newcomer High School students will have better access to academic courses, especially science courses, which are required to graduate from high school.
Actions:	The Commission passed unanimously the resolution to voice their support to the Filipino Education Center. Chronis (yes), Ecarma (yes), Huie (yes), Jimeniz (yes), Mallare (yes), Ow (yes), Ramirez (yes) and Saucedo (yes). The Commission failed to pass the resolution to ask the San Francisco Unified School District to retain the Newcomer High School at its current location with 7 yes and 1 no. Chronis (yes), Ecarma (yes), Huie (no), Jimeniz (yes), Mallare (yes), Ow (yes), Ramirez (yes) and Saucedo (yes).
Adjourn:	The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

Notice of Retreat Meeting and Agenda

Date: July 14, 2000
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Room 421
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

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I. Roll Call

II. Minutes *(Action Item)* (5 minutes)

III. Commission Retreat *(Discussion Item)* (115 minutes)
- A. *History of the Commission* *(Commissioner Saucedo)*
- B. *Proposed By Laws* *(Commissioner Chronis)*
  Consideration of By Laws drafted by Commissioner Chronis

IV. Lunch Break (1 hour)

V. Commission Retreat *(Action Item)* (120 minutes)
- A. *Policy Issues* *(Commissioner Huie)*
- B. *Annual Projects* *(Commissioner Mallare)*
- C. *Budget and Staff* *(Commissioner Ow)*

VI. Annual Report *(Action Item)* (30 minutes)

VII. Next Steps (30 minutes)
- A. *Community Public Meetings*
- B. *Meeting with the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor*

VIII. Adjournment

For questions about the meeting, or additional copies of By Laws please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of July 14, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) retreat meeting was held on Friday, July 14, 2000 at San Francisco City Hall, Hearing Room 416, at 10:00 A.M.

Members Present Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Philip Nguyen, Thou Ny, Richard Ow and Renee Saucedo.

Members Absent Samuel Assefa, Anita Friedman, Dale Jimenez, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, and Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
William Chan, Deputy City Attorney

Adoption of Previous Minutes The minutes of the June 1 and June 6, 2000 meetings were adopted by the Commission.

Presentation:

- Commissioner Saucedo provided a historical overview of the Commission.
- Commissioner Chronis presented a draft of the By-Laws. These By-Laws will be voted on by the Commission at the next meeting on August 3, 2000.
- Commissioner Huie summarized the issues which have been considered by the Commission in the past such as: Language Access Ordinance, Senior Citizenship Act, Education Policy for Immigrants, Welfare Reform, Hate Crimes, Voter Registration, etc.
- Commissioner Ow proposed the Commission staff and budget plan for the next fiscal year.
- Commissioner Mallare proposed that the Commission would organize the annual Immigrant Pride Day to honor the contribution of immigrants to San Francisco and to celebrate diversity in the City.

Next Meeting: The Commission approved the next meeting to be held in City Hall, Room 416 on August 3, 2000 at 5:00 P.M.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Date: August 3, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Hearing Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. **Roll Call**

II. **Approval of the minutes** *(Action Item)* (5 minutes)

III. **Public Comment** *(Information Item)* (10 minutes)

IV. **Presentation**: *(Information Item)* (15 minutes)
1. *African Immigrant & Refugee Resource Center*
2. *Day Labor Program*

V. **By Laws** *(Action Item)* (30 minutes)
Adopted of the proposed By Laws *(Commissioner Chronis)*

VI. **Community Public Meeting** *(Action Item)* (10 minutes)
Time and places of the next community public meetings for the year 2000

VII. **Future Activity** *(Action Item)* (30 minutes)
A. *Prioritize of policy issues* *(Commissioner Huie)*
Commission to decide which issues effecting immigrants to focus on for the fiscal year 2001 and the priority of these issues.
B. *Annual Immigrant Pride Day* *(Commissioner Mallare)*
Commission to consider organize the annual Immigrant Pride Day in San Francisco to highlight the valuable contributions of the immigrants.

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VIII. **Next Steps** *(Information)* (20 minutes)
A. *Community Public Meetings*
B. *Meeting with the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor*

IX. **Adjournment**

For questions about the meeting, or additional copies of By Laws please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

City Hall, Room 362, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102
TEL (415) 554-7583; FAX (415) 554-6177

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of August 3, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) retreat meeting was held on Thursday, August 3, 2000 at San Francisco City Hall, Hearing Room 416, at 5:00 A.M.

Members Present Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Dale Jimenez, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Philip Nguyen, Thou Ny, Richard Ow, Natividad Ramirez and Renee Saucedo.

Members Absent Anita Friedman, , Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, and Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
William Chan, Deputy City Attorney

Adoption of Previous Minutes The minutes of July 14, 2000 meeting was adopted by the Commission.

Presentation:

- Commissioner Chronis presented a final draft of the By-Laws and the Commission unanimously adopted the By-Laws.
- Commissioner Huie provided the list of issues which has been considered by the Commission in the past and recommended that the Commission should prioritize the issues as following:
    1. Language Access Legislation
    2. Hate Crimes
    3. Education policy for immigrant children
    4. Community empowerment

Actions: The Commission passed unanimously to hold the next community meeting at The Chinese Six Companies in Chinatown on September 7, 2000 at 5:00 P.M.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Date: September 7, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: Chinese Six Companies
843 Stockton Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. **Roll Call**

II. **Approval of the minutes** *(Action Item)* (5 minutes)
*(Explanatory Documents Minutes of August 3, 2000 meeting)**

III. **Public Comment** *(Information Item)* (115 minutes)

IV. **Adjournment**

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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* *Copies of explanatory documents are available to the public on the Commission's webpage: www.ci.sf.ca.us/immigrant/meetings.html; or, upon request to the Commission Secretary, at the above address or phone number*

DISABILITY ACCESS

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The meeting location is 843 Stockton Street. The closet BART and Muni Metro Station is Civic Center, about three blocks from the meeting location. Accessible Muni lines nearest the meeting location are:

Powell Station
30 Stockton Muni Bus

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Immigrant Rights Commission
COMMUNITY MEETING

What can the City do to promote immigrant rights?

- *Housing*
- *Education*
- *Equal Opportunity*
- *Other issues in immigrant Communities*

We need to hear from you!

Thursday, September 7, 2000
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Chinese Six Companies
843 Stockton Street (Chinatown)
San Francisco, CA 94103

For more information, please call
Richard G. Ow at 415-313-4303
or Dang Pham at 415-554-7583

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Immigrant Rights Commission
Minutes of September 7, 2000

The Immigrant Rights Commission (IRC) community meeting was held on Thursday, September 7, 2000 at the Chinese Six Companies at 843 Stockton Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, at 5:00 A.M.

Members Present Samuel Assefa, Penelope Chronis, Renato Ecarma, Isabel Huie, Dale Jimenez, Marie Lorraine Mallare, Philip Nguyen, Thou Ny, Richard Ow, and Renee Saucedo.

Members Absent Anita Friedman, Natividad Ramirez, Martin Schenker, Lee Sprague, and Nam Thai.

Others Present Dang Pham, Executive Director of the IRC
William Chan, Deputy City Attorney

Public Comments: About fifty people attended the community meeting at the Chinese Six Companies in Chinatown. Here is the summary of the important issues raised by different people:

Ms. Margaret Leung, a teacher at Newcomer High School shared with the Commission of her concerns regarding the pending decision by the San Francisco Board of Education to relocate the Newcomer High School from Pacifica to Mission.

Rev. Ashirvadam Rayikanti of the African Immigrant & Refugee Resource Center (AIRRC) shared with the Commission the mission and purpose of AIRRC. They also highlighted their concerns and issues relating to the African immigrant community in San Francisco.

A Chinese woman spoke at the meeting about important needs for bilingual bicultural staff at the nursing homes.

Traci Dobronavora of Self-Help for the Elderly in Chinatown urged the Commission to support the Citizenship Education and the Language Access Legislation. She also addressed the housing shortage for elderly immigrants in San Francisco.

Teresa Wu, Director of the Chinese Newcomer Services Center in Chinatown shared with the Commission her concerns regarding the new voting system in San Francisco, childcare service, language class, etc. She urged the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to provide public education of the new voting system and district-wide election to all neighborhoods in the City.

Actions: The Commission passed unanimously to hold the next meeting in City Hall, Room 416 on October 5, 2000 at 5:00 P.M.

Adjournment: The community meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

Notice of Meeting and Agenda

"Cancelled See Notice"

Date: October 5, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Hearing Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of the minutes of 8/5/00 meeting *(Action Item)* (5 minutes)
(Explanatory Documents: Minutes of August 3, 2000 meeting)*

III. Public Comment *(Information Item)* (10 minutes)

IV. Presentation: *(Information Item)* (15 minutes)
Day Labor Program

V. Report from the Policy & Access Committees *(Action Item)* (30 minutes)
(Explanatory Documents: Report from the Policy and Access Committees)*

VI. Future Activity *(Discussion Item)* (40 minutes)
*A. **Budget issue***
Commission to discuss of the budget needs for the next fiscal year.
*B. **Annual Immigrant Pride Day***
Commission to consider organize the annual Immigrant Pride Day in San Francisco to highlight the valuable contributions of the immigrants.
(Explanatory Documents: None)*

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VII. Next Steps *(Information)* (20 minutes)
A. Meeting with the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor
B. Nomination and reappointment of the Commissioners

VIII. Adjournment

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

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City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

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Chairperson
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Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
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Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

NOTICE OF CANCELLED MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2000 AT 5:00 P.M., HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2000 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE HEARING ROOM 416

Dang T. Pham
Executive Director

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City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

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Notice of Meeting and Agenda

Date: November 2, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Hearing Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. Roll Call

II. Public Comment *(Information Item)* (10 minutes)

III. Presentation: *(Information Item)* (15 minutes)
San Francisco Day Labor Program

IV. Report from Committees *(Action Item)* (45 minutes)
(Explanatory Documents: Report from the Policy and Access Committees)*
a. Language Access Legislation
b. Public Housing

V. Future Activity *(Discussion Item)* (20 minutes)
A. Budget issue
Commission to discuss of the budget needs for the next fiscal year.
B. Annual Immigrant Pride Day
Commission to consider organize the annual Immigrant Pride Day in San Francisco to highlight the valuable contributions of the immigrants.
(Explanatory Documents: None)*

VI. Next Steps *(Action Item)* (20 minutes)
A. Meeting with the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor
B. Pending Legalization Legislation in Congress
C. Commission's Holiday Dinner

VII. Next Meeting's Agenda *(Action Item)* **(10 minutes)**

VIII. Adjournment

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583

City Hall, Room 362, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102
TEL (415) 554-7583; FAX (415) 554-6177

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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils, and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review.

For information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapters 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code) or to report a violation of the ordinance, please contact:

Donna Hall, Clerk
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall – Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4683
(415) 554-5184 (Office)
(415) 554-5163 (Fax)
E-mail: donna_hall@ci.sf.ca.us

Copies of the Sunshine Ordinance can be obtained from the Clerk of the Sunshine Task Force, the San Francisco Public Library and on the City's website at www.ci.sf.ca.us.

* Copies of explantory documents are available to the public on the Commission's webpage: www.ci.sf.ca.us/immigrant/meeting.html; or, upon request to the Commission Secretary, at the above address or phone number.

DISABILITY ACCESS

The Immigrant Rights Commission meeting will be held in Room 416 at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco.

The meeting location is between Grove and McAllister Streets and is wheelchair accessible. The closet BART and Muni Metro Station is Civic Center, about three blocks from the meeting location. Accessible Muni lines nearest the meeting location are:

42 Downtown Loop
49 Van Ness-Mission
F-Market & Muni Metro (Civic Center Station)

For more information about Muni accessible services call (415) 923-6142.

There is accessible on-street parking available in the vicinity of the meeting location.

For assistance with special needs (large print agendas, sign language interpreters, etc.) call Dang Pham at (415) 554-7583.

In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that others may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals.

LOBBYIST ORDINANCE

Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance (Administrative Code Section 16.520-534) to register and report lobbying activity.

For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, contact the Ethics Commission at 1390 Market Street, Suite 701, San Francisco, CA 94102, (415) 554-9510, FAX (415) 703-1021, or visit their web site at **http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/ethics**

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2/00
cancelled

NOTICE

The November 2nd meeting of the Commission was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 7, 2000.

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Immigrant Rights Commission

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Notice of Meeting and Amended Agenda

Date: December 7, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Place: City Hall – Hearing Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

Renee Saucedo
Chairperson
Marie Lorraine Mallare
Vice Chairperson

Commissioners:
Samuel Assefa
Penelope Chronis
Renato Ecarma
Anita Friedman
Isabel Huie
Fidel Jimeniz
Philip Nguyen
Thou Ny
Richard G. Ow
Natividad Ramirez
Martin S. Schenker
Lee A. Sprague
Nam Thai

Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

AGENDA

Note: Decisions on any and all action items will be preceded by discussion and public comment

I. **Roll Call**

II. **Approval of minutes (Action Item)** (5 minutes)
(Explanatory Documents: Minutes of August and September meetings)*

III. **Public Comment** *(Information Item)* (10 minutes)

IV. **Presentation:** *(Discussion Item)* (25 minutes)
A. San Francisco Day Labor Program
B. National Network for Immigrants & Refugees

V. **Report from Committees** *(Action Item)* (40 minutes)
(Explanatory Documents: Report from the Policy and Access Committees)*
A. Language Access Legislation
Provide the most update of the status of the proposed legislation
B. Public Housing
C. Commission Membership
Nomination process for the new members of the Commission

VI. **Future Activity** *(Discussion Item)* (10 minutes)
A. Budget issue
Commission to discuss of the budget needs for the next fiscal year

B. Annual Immigrant Pride Day
Commission to consider organize the annual Immigrant Pride Day in San Francisco to highlight the valuable contributions of the immigrants.
(Explanatory Documents: None)*

VII. **Next Steps** *(Action Item)* (20 minutes)
A. Meeting with the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor
The Commission seeking the support for the legislation regarding the public housing for the immigrant population
B. Pending Legalization Legislation in Congress

VIII. **Next Meeting's Agenda** *(Discussion Item)* (10 minutes)

IX. **Adjournment**

For questions about the meeting please contact Dang Pham at 554-7583
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TEL (415) 554-7583; FAX (415) 554-6177

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City and County of San Francisco
Immigrant Rights Commission

NOTICE

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Executive Director:
Dang T. Pham

Due to the lack of quorum, the Immigrant Rights Commission's meeting originally scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2000 at 5:00 P.M. has been moved to Thursday, December 14, 2000 at 5:00 P.M. in Public Hearing Room 416 in the City Hall.

If you have any further inquiry, please contact Dang Pham at 415-554-7583.

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NOTICE OF CANCELLED MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2000 AT 5:00 P.M. HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2001 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE PUBLIC HEARING ROOM 416 IN THE CITY HALL.

Dang T. Pham

Executive Director

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